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EVERY WEEKDAY



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TUESDAY
EVERY WEEKDAY

Ann Widdecombe to take on Dobson

Hague picks new team in move to Right

By PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

WILLIAM HAGUE shook up his Shadow Cabinet yesterday less than a year after appointing it — and pitched newcomers Ann Widdecombe and David Willetts into the key battlegrounds of health and education.

The substantial shuffle marks a shift to the Right with most of the five newcomers bearing Eurosceptic credentials, while several members of the Tory old guard have retired or been moved aside. Francis Maude becomes Shadow Chancellor and Michael Ancram will take over as party chairman in October.

Miss Widdecombe and Michael Howard, who fell out spectacularly at the Home Office over the sacking of the prisons chief Derek Lewis, have agreed to put aside their differences and work together again as Miss Widdecombe is charged with leading the attack on hospital waiting lists.

Mr Willetts, a former Paymaster General and leading Tory thinker, has been appointed Shadow Education and Employment Secretary and given the task of harrrying David Blunkett over his failure to cut class sizes.

Mr Hague wants an offensive on health and education, two traditionally strong Labour policy areas on which he believes it has become vulnerable because of its inability to fulfil election pledges.

Among the old faces to disappear are Sir Brian Mawhinney and Stephen



Dorrell, who have left the team at their own request, and Alastair Goodlad, who was gently asked to go.

Peter Lilley, as expected, was moved from the Shadow Chancellor post to take charge of the overhaul of party policy. His compensation for losing one of the top jobs is the post of deputy leader and the task of chairing several important Shadow Cabinet committees.

Lord Parkinson is to end his second spell as party chairman six months early in October to allow Mr Ancram to take over. Gillian Shephard moves from Shadow Commons Leader to face John Prescott as Shadow Environment Secretary; John Maples moves from health to defence and Sir George Young from defence to Shadow Leader of the Commons.

But perhaps the most surprising promotion was that of Sir Norman Fowler who, despite twice retiring from front-line politics, becomes Shadow Home Secretary.

Apart from Miss Widdecombe and Mr Willetts, the other newcomers are Liam Fox, who is constitutional affairs spokesman and the only member of the Shadow Cabinet younger than Mr Hague; Peter Ainsworth, who moves from Deputy Chief Whip to become Shadow Culture Secretary; and Gary Streeter, who becomes Shadow International Development Secretary.

With promotions for several of his supporters to junior posts, Mr Hague was clearly using the shakeup to continue the process of building a front-bench team in his own image. But there were advances also for some noted pro-Europeans: Damian Green (education), Quentin Davies (social security) and Keith Simpson (defence).

Mr Hague's aides insisted that he had pencilled in yesterday for the reshuffle several weeks ago so that the team was in place ready for its big public consultation campaign next month. But Mr Hague was probably also assuming that Mr Blair would use last week's Whitsun recess to reshape the Cabinet. Although that did not happen, Mr Hague decided to go ahead anyway to give the party a boost. It means, however, that shadow ministers may find themselves facing different adversaries within a few weeks and Mr Hague may have to make adjustments if Mr Blair changes Whitehall's departmental structure.

Tory reshuffle, pages 10, 11
Leading article, page 21



Paul Gascoigne leaving the home of his estranged wife in Hertfordshire yesterday

Millions of fizzy drinks withdrawn from shops

By NIGEL HAWKES
AND DOMINIC KENNEDY

MILLIONS of cans of fizzy drinks and bottles of sparkling mineral water were removed from sale yesterday after a chemical that causes cancer was found in the bubbles.

Batches of Coca Cola, Pepsi, 7UP, Fanta, Tango, Lilt, Sprite, Schweppes Shandy, Malvern Water and Brecon Carreg water were withdrawn by the manufacturers after carbon dioxide supplied by a West Country factory was found to be contaminated with benzene.

The levels of the chemical discovered, 20 parts per billion, are extremely low and would not affect the taste of the drinks but are still double the limit set by the World Health Organisation.

Britvic Soft Drinks withdrew 2.25 million cans that they feared might be contaminated. Coca-Cola Schweppes withdrew 480,000 bottles of its sparkling Malvern Water. The "still" version is safe. The company also withdrew batches of its canned drinks, but said the problems had been limited to a particular canning factory and that all other drinks had been cleared. Brecon Carreg, which is sold as an individual label, as well as under the "own-brands" of Safeway, Tesco, Boots and Waitrose, was also removed.

The benzene had reached the drinks through carbon dioxide supplied by Terra Nitrogen (UK) from its plant in Severnside, near Bristol. It is not known how the gas became contaminated, nor for how long the supply was affected, although it is thought likely to have been days, rather than months.

Benzene is a volatile liquid used as a solvent and as a petrol additive. Workers exposed to high levels of the chemical have been found to



suffer leukaemia and liver damage. The levels found in the fizzy drinks are too low to have such adverse effects. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said the risks were negligible.

The British Soft Drinks Association said that supermarkets were being advised which batches of drinks needed to be removed, but emphasised that the products were being withdrawn on the ground of quality rather than for health reasons.

The risks of damage to the industry are, in fact, far greater than any imaginable health risk to drinkers, as Perrier discovered to its cost after its supplies of water were contaminated in 1990.

Terra, one of three suppliers of carbon dioxide to the drinks trade, said that an investigation was underway to try to find the source of the contamination.

The company was not aware of any threatened legal action "at this stage".

Perrier experience, page 2

Wine scandal

The French wine industry is in ferment over allegations that experts at Chateau Giscours, one of the most celebrated Bordeaux wine-makers, may have doctored wines in defiance of strict French laws. Two people have been placed under investigation. Page 13

Tax windfall

The Channel Islands will benefit from a £100 billion outflow of funds from the Irish Republic and the Continent as a result of efforts to harmonise the EU tax regime for offshore savings. The islands, which have their own tax regime, are not members of the EU. Page 27

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Pakistan to build hydrogen bomb

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN and other permanent members of the United Nations Security Council will hold an emergency meeting in Geneva on Thursday to see what can be done to halt the growing tension between India and Pakistan.

News of the talks came as the head of Pakistan's missile programme announced yesterday that Islamabad is developing a hydrogen bomb.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, will be joined in Geneva by Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, and the foreign ministers of Russia, France and China who will look at steps to curb the nuclear arms race. Mr Cook told Parliament that he will summon a special meeting of the Group of Eight, where all the nuclear powers except China will be joined by Canada, Italy, Germany and Japan.

Neither India nor Pakistan will send representatives to the meetings, which are expected to urge both to start talks on signing the treaties limiting the spread and testing of nuclear arms.

Stakes raised, page 17

Gascoigne's excesses let him down, says Hoddle

By OLIVER HOLT IN LA MANGA, DANIEL MCGRORY AND JOHN GOODBODY

GLENN HODDLE, the England coach, yesterday attributed his controversial decision to omit Paul Gascoigne from his World Cup squad to the player's preference for night-time excesses over full fitness.

Speaking on the terrace of the team's five-star hotel in southwest Spain, Hoddle stopped short of pinning Gascoigne's exclusion on his much-publicised recent nights out with Rod Stewart, the rock star, and Chris Evans, the media owner and presenter.

However, he made it plain that Gascoigne's excursions had contributed to his inability to stay clear of injury and a subsequent lack of fitness that he felt would handicap him during the tournament, which begins next week.

"He could have done more to help himself, put it that way," Hoddle said. "There are a lot of things he could have done to get himself in better shape before we met up last week. But he didn't. I have done so many things to

try to make him see what is needed in the modern day at his age. Now he has just run out of time. The injuries keep coming for him and that is because, both physically and mentally, he has not been in

‘A fit Paul Gascoigne, without any shadow of a doubt, would have been in my squad’

the best of shape. In the past, I have protected him and I have helped him and done as much as I possibly can. A fit Paul Gascoigne, without any shadow of a doubt, would have been in my squad."

Live on television, Hoddle said: "We had a two or three minute chat and there were some tears in his eyes." Gascoigne himself remained uncharacteristically

bashful yesterday. He took his estranged wife, Sheryl, and their son, Regan, to a country club and had two policemen guard their front door in the Hertfordshire village of Stanstead Abbots.

The Gascoigne family left it to his father, John, to attack Hoddle. "He shouldn't have built Paul's hopes up just to drop him like that. Paul never suspected for a second that he would be left out."

He said that Gascoigne's decision to go and stay with his estranged wife was to explain to his son and stepson why he would not be gracing the World Cup.

"He is angry, depressed and tearful, but the boys, Regan and Mason, will be more disappointed than anyone".

In the Commons many MPs criticised Hoddle and questioned his sanity.

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Leading article, page 21
Great debate, page 48
Hoddle explains, page 52

Underwater dinner-gong heralds fish course

By GILLIAN HARRIS
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

IN AN experiment that might have defeated even Pavlov, scientists are setting out to prove that fish can be trained to associate noise with food.

They will work with shoals of smart fish, such as plaice, Dover sole and flounders, to test their responses to a low-frequency bleeper that will go off in the sea at feeding time. The theory is that the fish will swim towards the bleeper and be rewarded with a large

meal. The researchers at Stirling University have already ousted dumber fish, including cod and haddock, from the training programme after they demonstrated alarmingly short memories that made it unlikely they would remember hearing the bleeper minutes after it had gone off.

It is the first time fish have been experimented on in this way in Europe. Most scientists consider fish ill-equipped to grasp the connection between sound and nourishment. John Bostock, the project's coordinator

believes that if the research proves that fish can learn to respond, it could help to reverse the decline in fish stocks. Farmed fish would be released into the sea in a particular area and conditioned through acoustic stimuli to collect at feeding points. It would also make fish a great deal easier to catch. Fishermen would pinpoint a feeding station, throw their nets over the side and wait for the fish to be called for dinner.

This proposed combination of traditional fishing and fish farming will be

world. Similar experiments have been suggested in Japan but no work has begun. In Scotland, scientists are dreaming of marine parks thick with obedient fish.

"There are a lot of questions that need to be explored," Dr Bostock said. "The next step would be to fund research on specific aspects, including sea trials involving the release and recapture of fish using acoustic equipment. But we're still quite a long way from anyone setting up a commercial

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Question of sport shows up a world of two halves

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Within minutes of the Commons return from holiday yesterday, Madam Speaker was lashing out at Paul Gascoigne ... as we shall see.

To watch Culture, Media & Sport ministers fielding nonsense from backbenchers at Questions yesterday was like observing the grown-ups babysitting while the toddlers throw their rattles around. Two worlds were on display: the Commons and the Government. Two worlds which hardly touch.

What was really bothering Chris Smith, the Secretary of State, was far from the House of Commons: the Comprehensive Spending Review being conducted elsewhere by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In his interior world Mr Smith could hear the sound of knives being sharpened.

Every time the Opposition front bench mentioned the Spending Review he flinched as if an electric shock had been delivered to his gonads. Between these agonies, however, ministers were obliged to deal with goofy questions from backbenchers about Gaza and Ginger Spice, and to pretend to be amused.

First up was Arts Minister Mark Fisher, trying valiantly to gloss over the resignation of the entire Theatre Panel of the cash-starved Arts Council. For a moment ministers were on the defensive, but relief came from the toddlers. Gordon Prentice (Lab. Pendle) wanted Chris Smith to return the Elgin Marbles, claiming Neil Kinnock had agreed with him. Eric Forth (C. Chislehurst) thought Mr Kinnock had lost his marbles. All laughed.

Smith pawed the air and declared that Britain would never return the Marbles. All cheered. Grown-up worries fled - for a while. As there is not the remotest risk the Marbles will be returned, Labour's spin doctors could do worse than arrange a new Greek bid for these objects, to be unveiled as a diversionary tactic

when the Chancellor slashes Smith's budget.

Next to distract the adult world briefly was Anne McIntosh (C. Vale of York). A Labour backbencher, Harold Best (Leeds NW) had enquired about "the role of sport in combating social exclusion." Miss McIntosh chose the moment (sport having been mentioned) to ask the view of Sports Minister Tony Banks on the effect on the England team of leaving out Paul Gascoigne. Mr Banks hesitated. What had this to do with the Question? The Speaker knew. Paul Gascoigne was the subject. "It's about social exclusion" she told MPs. Miss Boothroyd can be so cruel.

One-up to the Tories, who had contrived to mention Gaza. Not to be outdone, a Labour MP, Gareth Thomas (Harrow) asked the Film and Tourism Minister, Tom Clarke, about Ginger Spice.

The diplomatic Mr Clarke restricted himself to saying he was "delighted to meet the Spice Girls personally, on location". MPs all went "Oooh".

It was left to Smith's Tory Shadow (until today), Francis Maude, to bring ministers to earth with a bump. He asked about the English Tourist Board, which (rumour says) faces a Treasury axe. Smith winced.

At 3.10 Peter Mandelson, Dome Minister, stalked on to be hissed at for ten minutes. Tory Spokesman Richard Spring taunted him about the way "Surfball" had dropped out of the news. Mr Mandelson had apparently claimed that this addition to the Dome's Serious Sport Zone would prove "the sport of the 21st Century." What happened to Surfball?

Ah, drawled Mandelson, it didn't actually exist. "Surfball was illustrative." Illustrative? So that is Labour's new tack? Next, the Party's manifesto pledges may prove "illustrative". Perhaps Mr Mandelson himself will turn out not to exist. Maybe he is illustrative? But of what?

Mess with unions at your peril, Chancellor is told

Restrictions on public-sector pay deals may spark confrontation, reports Polly Newton

GORDON BROWN was warned yesterday not to use public-sector workers as "pawns" in his fight to keep down government spending. Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of Unison, one of the biggest unions, predicted trouble for Labour unless the Chancellor eased restrictions on public-sector pay increases.

His comments came after *The Times* disclosed that Mr Brown was planning to maintain his tight control of public spending until the next election. The Chancellor wants to keep the Government's budget in surplus for the next four years, which means there will be no borrowing to finance public workers' wage demands.

Mr Bickerstaffe said: "If the line is that the troops in the public services ... are simply going to be used as pawns, I think we are in for a spot of difficulty."

He said that the Government had already rejected the recommendations of the pay-review bodies and had

phased in wage increases for teachers and nurses. "People are voting with their feet, they are leaving their jobs, morale is low, and if the Government really does want to balance things out I think Mr Brown has got to say we've got to be a bit more fair."

Mr Bickerstaffe said that he had recently met the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Alistair Darling, to press for higher wage settlements. "We argued that, since the public sector borrowing requirement was almost certainly going into surplus shortly, that the 2.6 per cent public-service workers have been receiving in pay rises ... was something that could not continue."

Labour had given the "clear impression" that the spending limits set by the last Government would be followed for

only two years. "It would be disappointing, and unnecessary, should the Government suggest that a further straitjacket will be imposed."

Mr Bickerstaffe said public-service workers were not demanding massive increases, just "a decent day's pay for a decent day's work". They felt unfairly treated compared with employees in the private sector. "Prudence and caution have their place, but there needs to be some balance introduced. Boardroom pay, obscene City bonuses and unearned share options at one end, and heavy, not to say ironhanded, restraint for the poorest, is a recipe for disaffection."

The Liberal Democrats also criticised Mr Brown, claiming that he had "cobbled together a new economic

policy" as the Government's year-long comprehensive spending review neared completion. Previous administrations have sought only to balance their books, rather than attempting to achieve a substantial surplus.

Edward Davey, the Lib Dem economics spokesman, called for the Chancellor to be summoned before the Treasury Select Committee to explain himself. He said that Mr Brown appeared to have confirmed the Liberal Democrats' argument that the Government was accumulating a "war chest" of funds to be used as the next general election approached.

The Prime Minister's official spokesman dismissed as "Teletubbies plus" the suggestion that Mr Brown was building a war chest of £50 billion. He said the Government was signalling its determination to maintain a tough financial approach but wanted to direct more money into areas identified as priorities.

Blair faces hostility on return to Ulster

By Audrey Magee, Ireland Correspondent

TONY BLAIR will make his fourth visit in five weeks to Northern Ireland today to meet all the political parties, including those who campaigned against the Belfast Agreement.

He is likely to meet a hostile reception from the Democratic Unionist Party which last night warned him that it was "pay-up time". Peter Robinson, deputy leader of the DUP, is demanding that Mr Blair live up to the pledges he made to secure a Yes vote.

"With stunts like hand-written promises, many Unionists were encouraged to vote for the deal. Now it is pay-up time," said Mr Robinson.

He said that the Prime Minister had led everybody to believe that there would be a direct link between decommissioning and a place for Sinn Fein in Government. He said people also believed, after listening to the Prime Minister, that the release of prisoners was also linked to decommissioning.

"The Unionist electorate wants express conditions that require both decommissioning and a declaration from the terrorists that they have permanently ended their campaigns. The legislation must be clear and precise," said Mr Robinson.

Mr Blair, discussed Ulster with his Irish counterpart over dinner in Dublin last night. It was his first time in the Irish Republic since becoming Prime Minister and his first meeting with Bertie Ahern since the signing of the Belfast Agreement on April 10th.

The weekend rioting in Portadown over an Orange parade and the growing pressure from the No campaigners and the Conservatives over prisoner releases and decommissioning made the meeting quite urgent. The two governments are facing into a difficult time in Northern Ireland over the coming six weeks as the marching season and the expected rioting coincides with elections to the new Northern

Ireland assembly on June 25. Mr Blair and Mr Ahern agreed to try and maintain the momentum on Northern Irish affairs and stick to the timetable agreed in the Belfast document. They also discussed the new commission being set up and chaired by Chris Patten, the former Hong Kong governor, to reform the RUC.

The Prime Minister was in Dublin at the start of a final push for unity on European issues ahead of this month's Cardiff summit, the climax of Britain's six month EU presidency. He plans to meet all EU leaders to solicit their views on the shape and agenda of the Cardiff meeting on June 15th and 16th.

Mr Blair needs to curry favour with European leaders after the European Parliament last week rejected a motion congratulating Britain on its handling of the EU presidency. The vote came less than a month after harsh criticism by European leaders of Mr Blair's handling of the Emu summit in Brussels, which ended in messy compromise over the appointment of the head of the European Central Bank.

He discussed a number of European issues with Mr Ahern, including Agenda 2000, the programme charting the future development of the Union, before calling on Mary McAleese, the Irish president.



Peter Robinson: "Pay-up time"



Presenters Jayne Middlemiss and Denise Van Outen: hours of curtsy practice

Queen opens Palace gates to the young achievers

By Alan Hamilton

NINE HUNDRED young people milled through the state apartments of Buckingham Palace last night enjoying a taste of a more people-friendly monarchy.

The Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and other members of the Royal Family hosted the reception for young achievers, from television presenters and film stars to a schoolgirl mother and the first woman steelworker shipyard, in line with the new openness that followed the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

In recent months the Queen has hosted a series of similar receptions. Last night it was the turn of youth. Spencer Oliver, 23, had his

boxing career ended by a punch that almost killed him. Beverley Hammett, 21, resumed her training as a nursery nurse after being disfigured in an acid attack and undergoing nine operations.

Robert Clegg, 25, has continued volunteering as a special constable with South Yorkshire police despite twice being injured on duty. Hazel Robson, 20, is a paraplegic Olympic athlete with cerebral palsy who has been running since she was nine. Tjinder Singh, 28, a shopkeeper, received a gold medal for his efforts to cut crime and promote racial harmony in the Riverside district of Cardiff.

Other achievers at last night's reception included Sarah Thewliss, 20, who broke down traditional barriers to become the first female steelworker in a shipyard at Walkhead-on-Tyne.

The *Big Breakfast* presenter Denise Van Outen was one of the first celebrities to arrive with *Top of the Pops* host Jayne Middlemiss. She said "I feel very honoured and really flattered. When I got the invite, at first I thought it was a joke and I am not sure what I am going to say to the Queen yet."

Middlemiss, 26, dressed in a smart navy blue suit, said: "I have not got a clue what I am going to say, but we have been practising our curtsying all day."

Soft drink firms hope to avoid fate of Perrier

By Mark Henderson

BY RECALLING millions of bottles of mineral water and soft drinks, Coca-Cola Schweppes and Boots hoped to avoid the fate of Perrier, whose actions after a similar benzene scare in 1990 helped it to slide from market leader to also-ran.

When traces of the carcinogen were found in bottles of Perrier in the United States, executives initially dismissed the scare. The firm insisted it was safe to drink but after customers began to vote with their feet and avoid the brand it belatedly decided to withdraw 160 million bottles worldwide at a cost of £50 million.

Different company spokesmen gave conflicting explanations of what had happened, which regions were affected, what the risk was and who was to blame. The firm's image as a healthy and chic beverage was seriously damaged - it had been marketed as young and healthy, with heavy spending on sports sponsorship.

That image was damaged as much by its dithering and lack of action as by health risks - which experts said were small - and sales slumped when it was relaunched. A brand that once accounted for 60 per cent of all mineral water sold in the United Kingdom now has 9 per cent of the market.

Sales of a billion bottles a year before the scare fell to 700 million in 1994 and a simultaneous expansion in the market that saw it flooded with competing brands hindered recovery. Malvern, one of the brands caught up in the present scare, was one of the major beneficiaries of Perrier's plight.

Two years after the scare Source Perrier was bought by Nestlé. The contaminated bottles of Perrier contained benzene at 15 parts per billion, less than that found in the present scare. It is thought to have got into the water after carbon filters were not changed as recommended.

FACTS BEHIND THE SCARE

Are these drinks a health hazard? No. Although benzene is a carcinogen, the safety levels set assume lifetime consumption at those levels.

What drinks are in the clear? Any drink that does not involve artificial carbonation. Are there other sources of benzene?

Many. It has been used as a petrol additive, so breathing is likely to give a larger dose than a contaminated bottle.

Why the panic? There is no need for panic. However, drinks manufacturers have to abide by internationally-agreed safe levels of chemicals in their drinks. To protect themselves they must do whatever they can to remove from sale drinks that exceed the limits. This makes the problem seem more serious than it is.

Should we worry? No, unless you are a soft drink manufacturer. Product recalls are expensive: getting products back from shops costs nine times as much as getting them there, not counting the loss of public confidence and lost production. Rebuilding market share can take years, as Perrier found after its water was contaminated with benzene in 1990.

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Paedophile lured boys with promise of football stardom

Soccer scout gave victims chance to train with league clubs, reports Mark Henderson

A FOOTBALL coach who sought young talent for professional clubs was jailed for nine years yesterday after admitting a string of sex offences against boys he lured with dreams of Wembley.

Barry Bennell, 44, who worked for Crewe Alexandra and had close links to Manchester City and Stoke City, pleaded guilty to 23 specimen charges at Chester Crown Court. One offence took place on Crewe's training pitch and another at the home of the First Division club's respected manager Dario Gradi.

the court was told. Bennell was released from a Florida jail last year after serving three years for abusing a British boy on a football tour.

The court was told that between 1978 and 1992, Bennell used his position as a selector of junior teams in Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Cheshire to gain access to hundreds of boys aged between 9 and 14. Some were invited to stay at his home or to go on football tours. He would often

win their trust by offering them opportunities to train with Crewe or Manchester City, Alex Carlile, QC, for the prosecution, told the court.

"The defendant had acquired a reputation as a very good coach," Mr Carlile said. "Parents, teachers and others trusted him. He had direct contacts with at least three football league clubs, Crewe Alexandra, Stoke City and Manchester City. All built professional relations

with him." Bennell had ruthlessly exploited the dreams of players for his sexual gratification, Mr Carlile said. "Almost nothing on earth so excites young boys as the prospect of becoming a professional footballer. The image of holding a trophy aloft between Wembley's twin towers is the stuff boyish dreams are made of."

Most of the incidents took place at one of the three homes he lived in

what was going on," Mr Carlile said. Cheshire, North Wales and Derbyshire police began to investigate complaints against Bennell after his deportation from the United States last August. He pleaded guilty to 23 charges and 22 were allowed to stay on the file.

Judge Huw Daniel told Bennell: "You had access to well-known football clubs, football clothing and things of that kind. The boys were prepared to do almost anything you asked them."

Cheshire, North Wales and Derbyshire police began to investigate complaints against Bennell after his deportation from the United States last August. He pleaded guilty to 23 charges and 22 were allowed to stay on the file.

Cab driver accused of raping runaway pop fan

By A CORRESPONDENT

A SCHOOLGIRL who ran away from home to seek out her pop idol, Brian Harvey, was repeatedly raped by a taxi driver she trusted, an Old Bailey court heard yesterday.

After her alleged ordeal, she went to the East 17 singer's home, rang his doorbell and shouted that she was cold and wanted blankets. But he told her to leave, the court heard.

Sasha Wass, for the prosecution, said the 13-year-old ran away from her home in the Southampton area on March 23 last year.

"She found herself at Charing Cross. She was hungry and broke," Miss Wass said. A taxi driver asked if she was alone and agreed to give her a lift and bought her something to eat.

The girl spent several hours in the cab, during which time the driver raped her three times and committed another sexual offence, Miss Wass said.

Peter Goddard, 40, from Berflet, Essex, has denied raping the teenager on March 24 last year.

Miss Wass said Goddard had driven the girl to Waterloo in his cab after the attack and gave her £20 so that she could get home. The girl did not go home then, but took an Underground train to Loughton, Essex, where Harvey was living at the time.

She rang the doorbell, shouting she was cold and wanted some blankets. "He told her to clear off," Miss Wass said.

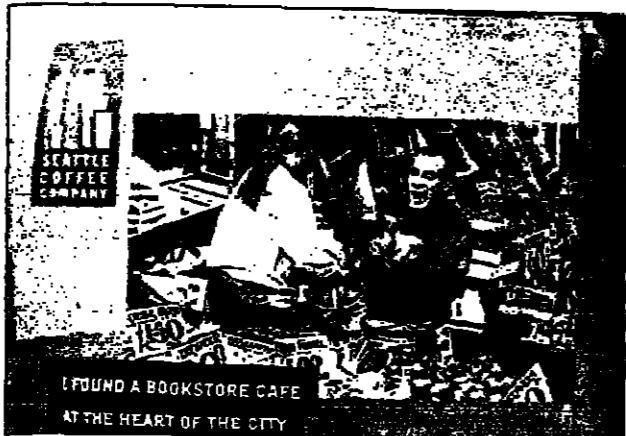
The girl returned to her home and school, where she confided to a friend, who was also crazy about Harvey, that she had been to his house. She alleged that, while in London, she had been raped by a taxi driver, the court was told.

After consulting a GP, she went to the police. When arrested, Goddard allegedly said the girl had told him she would 'do it' for £20.

He had not done anything like it before, but this time thought "What the hell?", he allegedly told officers. He had admitted an indecent assault on the girl.

The trial continues today.

Coffee campaign goes off the boil



The image: Norman Wilson on the coffee promotion

Face to lure the trendsetters is really Essex market trader who now wants royalties, says Jason Nissé

HE SEEMED to have a good face to sell coffee. To the advertising men, Norman Wilson's features said ordinary yet interesting, a face of the city.

It was a face they photographed for a marketing campaign for Seattle Coffee Blend sold at trendy coffee stores, as well as 30ft posters bearing the legend: "I found a bookstore café at the heart of the city where I enjoyed a flavourful combination of people, books and coffee. Gradually on my daily jaunts, the city became my all-day companion. I was beginning to feel happy about making this my home."

It was not quite an image Mr Wilson recognises. The market trader from Essex left school at 16 and admits he is more likely to read *The Sun* than browse through a collection of beat poetry.

But that was not the only

problem. Whatever else his face might have said to the marketing types, it appears that it did not say: Yes, you can use my picture to sell your coffee.

Now the Seattle Coffee Company is withdrawing the packets from its 61 fashionable bars. Mr Wilson claims that the chain — whose founders, Ally and Scot Svenson, recently became multi-millionaires when the chain was bought by Starbucks, a firm from Seattle — owe him royalties.

"Loads of people take my picture, but I never gave my permission for them to use nothing," Mr Wilson said yesterday. "I'm a businessman, but it's not the money that I'm worried about. It's the principle."

For the past 25 years, his daily routine has involved leaving his home early in the morning, buying fruit and



The reality: Norman Wilson at work on his stall yesterday. He said: "I'm a businessman, but it's not the money. It's the principle"

vegetables from the New Covent Garden market in Vauxhall, and selling them on his stall on Berwick Street in London's Soho. "I do quite enjoy the odd cappuccino," he admits, but says he has never been to a "bookstore café" and certainly not to Seattle.

The first time he went to a Seattle Coffee Company store was when he travelled to the outlet on Oxford Street to inspect the giant picture of him which overlooks the espresso drinkers. He was one of a series of "ordinary folk" which Seattle's design consultancy, Wickens Tut Southgate, photographed to use to illustrate the chain's coffee blends. Eleven of the ordinary

folk work for Seattle Coffee Company. Mr Wilson's stall is a mile from Wickens' West End offices.

The coffee company reacted with shock when they found that Mr Wilson was unhappy. "The whole purpose was to use everyday people, not models," says Gabrielle Shaw, who runs the company's public

ity effort. "It is up to the design company to get release forms signed by the people we use. But if there is anything wrong, we will rectify it."

Julian Martin, the designer at Wickens Tut Southgate responsible for the Seattle City Blend bags, says that he has a signature which looks a lot like N Wilson: "To our know-

ledge, everyone involved in the campaign has signed release forms."

However, Mr Wilson has having nothing of it: "I didn't sign anything. I'm going to put in in the hands of my solicitors." It looks like there is plenty more froth to come from the storm in the coffee cup.

Clerk wins £4,000 for slap on the bottom

By A CORRESPONDENT

A SLAP on the bottom from the managing director cost an insurance company more than £4,000 yesterday.

Beverly Torlop, 35, a clerk with Reassure in Swansea, protested at the slap, delivered as she bent over in a store-room, but was sacked from her job.

She was awarded £4,478 in damages and £680 in unpaid wages after taking her case to an industrial tribunal.

Miss Torlop told how Mr Courtney, the managing director, began "taking an interest" in her just days after she joined the firm. "He asked me to go with him to look at sites for a new office and was very chatty," Miss Torlop said. "It was unusual but he was the boss so I went along with him."

The slap came when Mr Courtney called her into a backroom of the office. "He said there were problems with the telephone system and wanted me to check the cable boxes. I bent over to see the box and he slapped me on the bottom."

"I was shocked and upset. I didn't know what to say at first because he was my boss."

She spoke to the police and then reported it to her immediate superior at the company. But the tribunal at Cardiff was told that Miss Torlop was sacked without pay days later. She had joined the company six weeks previously. The tribunal supported her claim of sexual discrimination and unfair dismissal.

Vicar and wife found guilty of cruelty to 78 cats

By PAUL WILKINSON

A VICAR who used his limited stipend to help stray cats faces losing his post after he and his wife were convicted of neglecting 76 animals they took in.

The cats were put down after RSPCA inspectors discovered almost 100 living in an outhouse at the vicarage of the Rev Victor Dickinson, 50, and his wife Judith, 40.

Yesterday, after magistrates in Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland, banned the couple from keeping animals for the next five years, Mr Dickinson's bishop said he would be considering the parish priest's position.

During the court hearing, in which the couple admitted the cruelty under the Protection of Animals Act 1911, they apologised for neglecting the cats they kept at their home in Lowick, near Berwick. Andrew McMurchie, for the defence, said that they had tried to provide homes for unwanted cats, but had failed

to appreciate the consequences of taking on so many animals. RSPCA inspectors went to the vicarage after a tip-off last September. Vets put the cats to sleep after they were found to be suffering from various illnesses as well as physical deformities. Clive McKeag, for the RSPCA, said: "This is an extraordinary case and a very, very unfortunate one. It is a case of what can only be described as mass neglect of cats."

The couple were each ordered to pay £250 costs and given one month to rehouse the remaining 12 cats and two dogs in their care.

The Bishop of Newcastle, the Rt Rev Martin Wharton, said: "The extent to which Mr Dickinson provided a refuge for the animals far outweighs his ability and resources to care for them. I shall be discussing with Mr Dickinson the implications of this matter for his future ministry."



The Rev Victor Dickinson and his wife, Judith

Footballer denies he bit neighbour in the head

By PETER FOSTER

VINNIE Jones, the QPR player-manager, smashed his way into a neighbour's mobile home and assaulted him after a row over a stile and a footpath gate, a court was told yesterday.

The soccer star was said to have left Timothy Gear, 27, with a bloody nose, cut lip and bite marks on his head after the alleged assault last November near Mr Jones's house in Redbourn, Hertfordshire.

Mr Gear, a riding instructor, told St Albans magistrates he was asleep in his caravan when Mr Jones started hammering on the door, shouting and swearing. Mr Gear, thinking the commotion had been caused by one of his horses escaping, drew back a curtain to see an enraged Mr Jones.

Seconds later, the court was told, the kitchen window was smashed by Mr Jones, who demanded to know why Mr Gear had taken down his stile earlier that day. When he opened his door, Mr Gear said, the 33-year-old footballer grabbed him by the shoulders and sank his teeth into his scalp. "I felt the teeth actually go in," he said. "It was very painful."

Mr Jones, who pleaded not guilty to causing criminal damage and actual bodily harm, said the exchange had been limited to "pushing and shoving". "There was no fists or anything like that. We were just thrashing around," he added.

The trial continues.

Railmen take French connection

BRITISH train drivers, who have traditionally worn rudeness as a badge of honour, have been told by their French employers to adopt Gallic charm. (Arthur Leachley writes.)

Staff on the Connex network are being given a psychology lesson in an effort to give the railways a more personable image. Drivers and guards have been told that the old-style BR response of turning the back on a complaining passenger has a psychological effect

similar to being placed in solitary confinement.

Passengers should be given "positive strokes" that make them feel better. When they were told by a psychologist that hugs and kisses helped to reassure people, staff attending a company conference in London feared the shift to French charm might be going too far.

One guard said afterwards: "If I were to go up to a commuter and attempt to either kiss or hug him or her I would

probably be arrested." However Connex managers were swift to water down the advice. "We don't expect our staff to go that far but being friendly and attentive is important," a spokesman said, adding that the advice was a general illustration rather than an instruction.

Passengers of the two Connex companies, which run trains mainly to Kent, South London, Surrey and Sussex, have endured more difficulties than most

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Soft drink firms hope to avoid fate of Perrier

FACTS BEN THE SOL

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DELL

New chiefs to help get CPS back on track

A NEW Director of Public Prosecutions will be in place by the autumn to oversee the most radical shake-up of the Crown Prosecution Service in its 12-year history.

The Attorney-General, John Morris, QC, strongly backed proposals for an overhaul after a report said the service had become bureaucratic and over-centralised.

The report was the result of a year-long inquiry by Sir Iain Glidewell, a former High Court judge. Sir Geoffrey Dear, former Chief Constable of West Midlands and Robert McFarland, former chief executive of British Oxygen. It comes just ten days after Dame Barbara Mills, the Director of Public Prosecutions, announced she would step down early when a successor is found.

Mr Morris said that although the CPS had established itself as a cohesive, national prosecuting service, it had not achieved the effectiveness and efficiency expected on its creation in 1986.

Mark Addison, 47, the director of the Better Regulation Unit at the Cabinet Office, is the service's new chief executive. The former private secretary to Baroness Thatcher will take up his post — in which he will be answerable to the DPP — within days. The post separates the task of administering the 6,000-strong service — which deals with 1.3 million magistrates' court cases a year and 120,000 crown court cases — from the DPP's role of prosecution policy.

The revamped service will see much closer links between

Frances Gibb and Stewart

Tendler report on closer links between police and prosecutors

police and prosecution lawyers. It will be reorganised into 42 areas coinciding with police areas, each under a local Chief Crown Prosecutor with wide autonomy.

Crucially, the report recommends the setting up of integrated units of police and CPS lawyers and staff, to handle straightforward cases. The CPS, it says, should take responsibility for contacting witnesses immediately after the police charge a defendant.

Mr Morris told the Commons yesterday: "The Government accepts the thrust of the report's proposals for re-ordering CPS priorities to focus more on the core business of prosecuting, greater separation of management from legal work, greater autonomy for the areas and better prospects for the staff."

He also paid "warm tribute" to Dame Barbara.

Later, he said his fears about the service had been founded. "The sad feature is that a dedicated and hard-worked and sometimes over-worked body of people have not realised their potential."

David Phillips, Chief Constable of Kent and the national spokesman for the Association of Chief Police Officers, said it supported local responsibility on prosecutions and a collaborative approach on case management. It would back the general principle of common administration and joint location of police and CPS.

There could be difficulties over the funding of the criminal justice units but they were not insurmountable. "Overall, the police service has long taken the view that responsibility for the justice system must involve more than concern to get individual cases properly dealt with."

Chief Superintendent Peter Gammon, the president of the Police Superintendents' Association, said it had complained about the wastage and duplication in evidence to the inquiry, and had accepted there would have to be greater integration. The idea of a criminal justice unit was a reasonable suggestion, he said.

Phillip Sycamore, president of the Law Society, said: "CPS lawyers have had to struggle for too long in an overly centralised bureaucracy in which their own skills and professional judgment have been undervalued."

Jonathan Baume, the general secretary of the First Division Association — which represents senior lawyers and administrators at the CPS — said it had long called for less bureaucracy so more time could be spent prosecuting criminals.

Red tape, page 20



Mark Addison is taking over the administration of the CPS from Dame Barbara Mills



Missed chances for better justice

THE Crown Prosecution Service was condemned for failing to bring criminals effectively to book. The damning report depicts a service where charges are thought to be "inappropriately downgraded" and a disproportionately large number of serious violent crimes not prosecuted.

More than half the acquittals in the Crown Courts are ordered by a judge — sometimes this is because a witness fails to turn up, but in other cases it reflects on the CPS's performance, says the report.

It stops short of personal criticism of the departing DPP, Dame Barbara Mills, QC, but its depiction of an overbureaucratic service, where lawyers spend only a third of their time on their core work of prosecuting,

THE REPORT'S CRITICISMS

reflects on the organisation she has run since 1992. The CPS, it concludes, has the potential to become a lively, successful and esteemed part of the criminal justice system but "sadly, none of these adjectives applies to the service as a whole."

"The service is too bureaucratic and centralised, and too focused on minor cases in the magistrates courts instead of on the Crown Court. It is too isolated from other agencies in the criminal justice system, with too much work for too few people."

The report bears signs of a conflict between the DPP and the report team over statistics, particularly over whether

there has been a fall in convictions. The CPS figures differ from the Judicial Statistics, which show a decline from 1985 to 1996. The report concludes that it cannot find an explanation for the disparity, but it says there is evidence that the CPS drops charges most for violent crimes against people, and criminal damage, and drops charges least for motoring offences.

"We could not fail to recognise the volume of doubts and, on occasions, criticisms expressed to us in almost all quarters during the review to the effect that the CPS is thought to discontinue cases which might be judged as borderline in an effort to ease the pressures on a hard-pressed lawyer," it says.

Another accusation is that the service downgrades charges, making them easier to prosecute. There is no evidence for this, the report says, but it suspects "that inappropriate downgrading does occur". It adds: "There has not been the improve-

ment in the effectiveness and efficiency of the prosecution process which was expected to result from the setting up of the CPS in 1986." Where they do show an improvement, that is often a reflection of "a recovery from a deterioration which took place immediately after 1986" — the year the CPS was set up, underfunded and understaffed.

The report calls for the dismantling of the present organisation of the service in 13 areas, which Dame Barbara herself put into effect in 1993, with the approval of the then Attorney-General.

At present, staff in the regions have a very limited freedom of action. The result has been "the effective withdrawal from prosecution of many senior lawyers, the demoralization of others and a negative impact on the effectiveness of prosecution". The CPS management appeared to believe that decisions could not be taken locally unless risks of a wrong decision were minimal.

□ *The Review of the Crown Prosecution Service* (Stationery Office, £3.50)

Solicitors 'think they know best' if clients complain

By Frances Gibb

SOLICITORS refuse to take complaints from clients seriously and still believe they "know best", according to research from Bristol University.

Three quarters of clients were dissatisfied with how their grievance was handled, in spite of Law Society rules requiring a proper complaints procedure, the research funded by the Nuffield Foundation found.

The most common complaints were fees (66 per cent), lack of communication (53 per cent), poor advice (52 per cent), delay (34 per cent) and professional collusion (11 per cent).

Solicitors are obliged to have an in-house complaints procedure but, Christa Christensen, Jane Worthington and Suzanne Day, from Bristol's law faculty, concluded that firms had adopted only the letter of the rule, not its spirit. "We found a pervasive negative view of its requirements and no evidence of a tangible shift of culture within firms to one in which a positive attitude to complaints-handling prevailed."

They found that one factor that influenced how solicitors handled complaints — was whether it was in their interest to maintain good will. "The maintenance of good will had a very low priority with private clients and a significantly higher priority with commercial clients," they wrote.

The research, based on studies of 16 firms in Bristol, Bath, Oxford, Brighton and Norwich, found that clients and solicitors accepted that the person delegated to deal with the complaint could not be impartial. "Commercial clients accepted this and viewed the process primarily as a negotiation. Private clients, however, were disturbed by the lack of independence of the complaint handler."

The research concluded that the fundamental difficulty with the rule requiring an in-house complaints procedure was that it was "rejected by a significant sector of the profession who still believe it is wholly illegitimate for a client to complain about service quality."

It added: "There are still many, many solicitors who believe that because I am a qualified solicitor I 'know best'."

The Fabian Society has called for an end to self-regulation by solicitors. A pamphlet, to be published next week, calls for the abolition of the "discredited" Office for the Supervision of Solicitors and the establishment of a body such as the General Medical Council.

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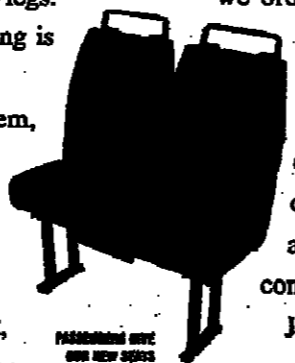
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Would you be happy playing against Gazza?

Some players are worth being allowed a little leeway, writes Danny Baker

A FEW weeks back the football world laughed down its sleeve as Iran fired its coach so close to the World Cup finals. On Sunday England showed that when it comes to eccentricity that spills over into bloody-mindedness, we really refuse to give up the crown.

Paul Gascoigne has not been dropped from the England squad. He has been punished. Glenn Hoddle can stonewall and hope to look serious and businesslike all he wants: his dreary, granite-jawed decision is at best idiotic and at worst weak and weasel-like.

Money-paying football supporters had hoped against hope that the long tradition of the Football Association — in being willing to be second, third or fourth best so long as we have an orderly, neat and tidy squad of diplomats — was dead and buried. But now he knows it's still standing room only at *No Mavericks Please, We're English*.

In his statement that Gazza has been fired for purely footballing reasons, Hoddle can only make us focus upon his other selections, including Ince, Anderson, Les Ferdinand, and be asked the legitimate question: "What, and these guys have just had vintage seasons, have they?" The answer is No, but they aren't any fussy.

What a shame international players can't be transferred. Hoddle would then find the



Out for days: Baker, Chris Evans and Paul Gascoigne

sheer panic involved in having Gascoigne on the opposing side. Imagine Gascoigne in the German line-up against us, given a free role for the USA or even squaring up in the Tunisian team. Be happy and comfortable facing that, would you, Glenn?

How much longer are we going to accept the polite, yet destructive, lie that no individual is bigger than a team because, yes, some of them are. Maradona was bigger than Argentina — and with a personal life that makes Paul's look like Ken Barlow's. Eric Cantona was a magnificent heap of dynamite wherever he went. Even Alan Shearer would have to be accommodated in a way that others would not if he suddenly formed a punk rock group. Peculiarly, many people still bridle at that idea and its inherent questions

about loss of control, but this is the age of the fact, not the opinion. There are very few photographers camped outside Andy Hinchcliffe's home today and isn't he another "ordinary" squad member?

Speaking of which, my own front door has been receiving the odd midnight knock since the story broke. That shot of Paul, Chris Evans and me at an awards ceremony nearly two years ago has had more airings than the amateur footage of Kennedy's assassination. This shot is known as coming from the "three-day bender". It got as high as five once, but seems to have settled at three.

This week a few observers — including, for shame, BBC's *Newsnight* — are even suggesting that in fact Paul, Chris and I are not friends at all: it's all

networking and career nudging. Apparently, my interview with Gazza for this very newspaper three weeks ago was typical of how Paul is being used by his friends. Yeah, right. Two interviews in ten years. I really milk my connections.

"But weren't you tearing up the town together the very weeks before the warm-ups?" I am challenged. Er, no, actually. And off they slink casting a look at me as though they were white America and I was O.J.'s defence team.

Sometimes it gets extremely rabid. Last year I had to ask for a retraction a *Sun* front page story that had me "sprawled across the bonnet of a white limousine" that contained Gazza and was cruising around Piccadilly. In fact, on the night in question I was — rather too perfectly, I'll admit — at my son's school play. I am also 40 years old.

But I can tell from the curl on your lip that is "enough already". Gazza equals wild man. It's too late to stop now and the outrageous final result is in.

Just one last thought. Every player is grateful and proud to be selected for his country. Sooner or later we've got to be big enough to recognise that a few — and very few from these islands — are eventually good enough to reverse the direction of those emotions.

The only scandal surrounding Paul Gascoigne is what's been done to him.



Paul Gascoigne yesterday with his estranged wife Sheryl and son Regan

Experts estimate £1/2 m cost of Hoddle rejection

By Adrian Lee

THE omission of Paul Gascoigne from the England World Cup squad could cost him £500,000 if his former team-mates win the competition. But media and marketing experts said yesterday that he could reap £1 million in the next few weeks by capitalising on his rejection by Glenn Hoddle.

The leading players are expected to gain £250,000 each from Team England, and Gascoigne will also miss out on bonuses from the FA: £100,000 for making the 22-man squad and an estimated £50,000 for winning the final. His deal to wear Adidas boots included a £100,000 bonus just for making the 22.

But, in the short-term at least, the commercial outlook for Gascoigne appears bright. Max Clifford, the celebrity agent, said: "Gascoigne is dangerous, controversial. Whether or not you are interested in football, you know Paul Gascoigne. There are not many stars like him who are able to transcend the sport. Despite this setback, he is still a big star. If he chose to, he could easily make £1 million in the next four or five weeks."

Mr Clifford said the going rate for Gascoigne's exclusive story of rejection by Hoddle could be £100,000. Failure by England would make him even more marketable. "If England don't win the competition, everyone is going to say Gascoigne made the difference."

Eric Hall, the showbusiness and football agent, agreed. "This will make him bigger than before. If England win the World Cup, the sky will be the limit for those boys and, even though Paul isn't playing, he will still be a part of that."

If he never kicks another football, the sport had already made Gascoigne a multimillionaire. A conservative estimate of his career earnings is £20 million.

Sport does not care for its stars when they fall to earth

By Daniel McGrory

REJECTION is likely to hit Paul Gascoigne hard. His first instincts, say some sports psychologists who have worked with him, may be to go "on a bender" to blot out the reality of being discarded by England.

One psychologist said: "He is at his most vulnerable at the moment. What you see with him is what you really get. He is emotional and

rejection hurts him. Of course he realises that, at 31, there won't be another World Cup for him, but he deals with crises at first by blocking out the present with drink and the company of friends. It's probable he will want to go abroad to finish his career and start a new life."

Gascoigne's turmoil, the experts say, is evidence of how sport never properly cares for its stars. They agreed with Tony Banks, the Sports Minister, yesterday that sport is a

lot crueler than politics. Mark Nesti, a senior lecturer in sports psychology at the Carnegie School of Leisure and Sports Studies, said: "Sporting icons lead such an unreal life they almost believe in their immortality. That healthy arrogance helps them succeed but it makes rejection harder to stomach."

"Their core desire to be involved is crushed under the weight of money and pressure. Some have nothing left to do when they get a

blow like this. They self-destruct. They turn to drink, or drugs. You also have to be wary of the effect on the rest of his team-mates. Gascoigne and great figures like him are icons for their teams as well as their countries. For that reason they will always be more forgiving than a manager."

The inevitable comparisons were drawn with Jimmy Greaves, who descended into alcoholism after being dropped from England's 1966

World Cup-winning side. Ian Cockerill, a lecturer in sports psychology at Birmingham University, said: "The popular view is that if you are paid a lot of money, like Gascoigne is, you take the rough with the smooth. The fact is that sports stars can never get used to rejection or disappointment."

"Outsiders may mock the idea of Hoddle taking faith healers or counsellors to his training camps, but these stars need to talk to

someone. There has got to be a reaction to rejection, particularly as public and brutal as this. In Gascoigne's case that is likely to be by fooling about. He is not a serious person who agonises about life."

"But our sports bodies, the Football Association included, do not do enough to help our stars to cope with rejection."

Leading article, page 21
Sport, pages 48 and 52

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Patient died after infected surgeon 'bled into wound'

GMC is told that doctor knew he had hepatitis, but continued surgery with cut finger, writes Ian Murray

A PATIENT died after a surgeon who knew he had hepatitis B continued operating when a cut on his finger bled into her open wound, the General Medical Council was told yesterday.

Other doctors and nurses at the Ysbyty Gwynedd hospital in Bangor, North Wales, saw blood seeping through the surgical gloves of the surgeon, Sanjay Ingley, as he performed a hip operation on Blodwyn Jenkins, 83, the GMC's professional conduct committee heard.

Mrs Jenkins was discharged after the apparently successful operation but collapsed and died two months later in October 1997. A post-mortem examination showed she had hepatitis B.

Rosalind Foster, for the GMC, told the council's professional conduct committee that Mr Ingley, 35, took no action to wash or clean his wound until after finishing the operation. She said the committee might find the guidelines to surgeons infected with hepatitis were "defective and should be changed", but it remained a fact that this doctor, by not taking the most commonsense precautions, had put his patients and colleagues at risk.

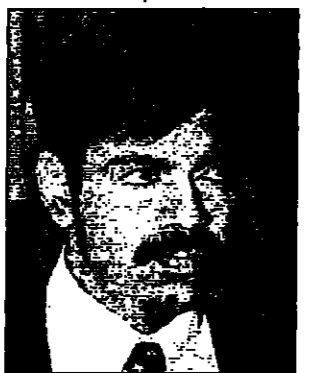
Mr Ingley had "quite properly" revealed he was a chronic carrier of hepatitis when he applied for a specialist post with the Gwynedd Hospitals NHS Trust in 1997. After blood tests he was given

permission to perform certain operations, but was warned that strict precautions must be taken to avoid the dangers of infection.

Since then he had carried out 600 operations at the hospital and at the Glan Clwyd hospital in Bodelwyddan, but all the patients had now been traced and tested negatively for hepatitis.

Miss Foster said Mr Ingley performed the operation on Mrs Jenkins on July 13, 1997, after she fractured her hip. At some point during the operation he cut his finger on a scalpel blade and was faced with an understandable dilemma. He did not want to leave an elderly patient under sedation for a long period of time but would have needed to do so if he had left the theatre to tend his cut.

Miss Foster said a nurse would give evidence that



Ingley denies failing to take proper precautions

when she gave Mr Ingley a new pair of surgical gloves, after she saw blood seeping through his original pair, he just put the second set on top of the others and continued with the operation.

No one in the operating theatre saw him leave at any time before the operation was completed.

Afterwards he made things worse because he had not told his colleagues about the cut to his finger and had not completed an accident/incident form — thus depriving Mrs Jenkins of the chance of treatment, including a vaccine which was known to have an 80 per cent success rate.

Mr Ingley, who qualified in Nagpur, India, in 1988, admits carrying out the operation on Mrs Jenkins when he knew he was infected with hepatitis B and failing to tell his consultant orthopaedic surgeon and his nursing colleagues that he was a carrier.

He denies being told by the hospital the precautions should take to avoid transmission of the disease. He also denies continuing to operate on Mrs Jenkins while his wound was continuing to bleed and thus failing to take adequate precautions to protect her and colleagues from transmission of the disease. Although he admits failing to complete an accident/incident form, he denies that he had been reminded to do so by his consultant.

The hearing continues.



Sir Donald Sinden and Sir Derek Jacobi arriving yesterday for the memorial service for Sir Ronald Millar

Tributes to Thatcher's wordsmith

Service recalls man of stage and politics, reports Alan Hamilton

FOR Margaret Thatcher and John Major, Sir Ronald Millar was a man who put the best lines into their mouths. For Sir Derek Jacobi and Sir Donald Sinden he was a playwright and great man of the stage.

Yesterday men and women from the not-so-different worlds of politics and theatre met at a memorial service at St Paul's, Covent Garden, for the man who wrote the lyrics for the musical *Robert and Elizabeth*, and other fine stage works, but much more importantly gave Margaret Thatcher the words, "The lady's not for turning."

Sir Ronald, who died in April aged 78, carved out speeches for three Conservative Prime Ministers, beginning with Sir Edward Heath. His two other clients, who are not often seen together, sat in the front pew: all that separated Sir Denis and Baroness Thatcher from John and Norma Major was Sir Ronald's ten-year old godson, Michael Stothard.

Outside the church Lady Thatcher acknowledged the contribution to her success of a man who also gave her the line, "The Old Testament prophets did not say, 'Brethren, I want a consensus'". She said: "His talent was for



Sir Ronald Millar

getting things absolutely simple. Not all prose will speak in politics you are not trying to read prose, you are trying to deliver a message."

Mr Major, who like Lady Thatcher praised Sir Ronald's transparent honesty, said: "He had this amazing gift for turning something round and making it better."

In an address to a packed church Sir Peter Ustinov, who recalled that he first met Sir Ronald in the changing room at Simons of Piccadilly as they were being fitted for costumes for a new musical, said: "If Ronnie had not been such an expert dramatist he would never have been capable of producing such seamless rhetoric, or earned the gratitude of such distinguished personnel."

Without Sir Ronald's craftsmanship behind them, Tory prime ministers could have been put in the position of Spiro Agnew, the former American Vice-President, who once confessed that he had not had time to read his speech before making it.

"I admire Ronnie as a dramatist but I sink to my knees before him as a speechmaker. I wouldn't know where to begin but I

know all too well where I would end," Sir Peter said. Drawing parallels between politics and theatre, Sir Peter continued: "Every first night is a kind of election; during the run, night after night, we try to win every constituency to ensure a comfortable tenure in office."

Patrick Garland, president of the Dramatists' Club — a post held by Sir Ronald for longer than any other incumbent — said: "Ronald's dedication and ideal was to combine the theatre of politics and theatre of, for want of a better word, theatre." The Very Rev David Elliott, conducting the service, said: "Ronald saw politics as the greatest theatre in the world."

Lady Thatcher and Mr Major read the lessons, Sir Ronald's godson read John Massfield's *Sea Fever* as a reminder of his service in the Navy.

The laughter was won by the thespians. Sir Derek Jacobi read from Sir Ronald's autobiography *A View From The Wings*, of his experiences in Hollywood when big-cigar producers planned to kill off Mrs Miniver, and the inseparable and indestructible Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray read from *Cymbeline*. Singers performed Sir Ronald's hit number *The Girls that Boys Dream About*.

On the back of the order of service, a group of Sir Ronald's fellow theatrical writers had compiled a brief tribute, quoting Millar's *Third Law of Speeches*: "Often, you don't need to rewrite something good; just move it from one place to another, and it will be transformed." And, of course, you have to pick the right actress to deliver the line.

Court and social, page 22

Cattle 'trampled elderly rambler to death'

By MICHAEL HORNSBY

AN ELDERLY woman whose body was found in a field in Sussex on Sunday evening appeared to have been trampled by cows on a public footpath, police said yesterday.

Grace Aldridge, 67, of Lymminster, West Sussex, was found by other walkers three hours after she was seen near the entrance to the field. Two of the woman's four sheltie dogs were lying dead by her side.

Acting Detective Inspector Dick Shelton, of Sussex Police, said: "It would appear that the lady was trampled by the animals in the field. I understand there were up to 50 cows and one bull there at the time."

Police were alerted about 8pm on Sunday after a couple out walking discovered Ms Aldridge's body. A farm worker had reported seeing her at about 5pm near the entrance to the field.

The Health and Safety Executive said last night that it was investigating the incident. "It is important that farmers and walkers are aware of the potential risks," Janet Connah, a spokeswoman, said. "Even normally placid cattle can become aggressive if dogs are present and they see a threat to their calves."

Sue Scott, of the National Farmers' Union, said: "There is an onus on all farmers to put cattle in fields to which there is public access only if they are confident the animals will behave themselves under normal circumstances."

Farmers are potentially liable for injuries caused to people using public footpaths. Earlier this year a woman who was attacked by a herd of cows was awarded £3,000 in compensation.

Eugene Suggett, of the Ramblers' Association, said last night: "Where cows have charged or tried to trample someone there is usually a dog involved. Our advice to dog-walkers faced with a dangerous situation would be to immediately let go of their animals."



Grace Aldridge: police say she was trampled

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Cattle 'trampled elderly rambler to death'

By Michael Horvath
An elderly woman who was walking through a field of stubble crops was trampled to death by a cow on a public path, police said.

A 67-year-old woman was walking through a field of stubble crops when she was trampled to death by a cow on a public path, police said.

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Fayed's dream home for sale

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

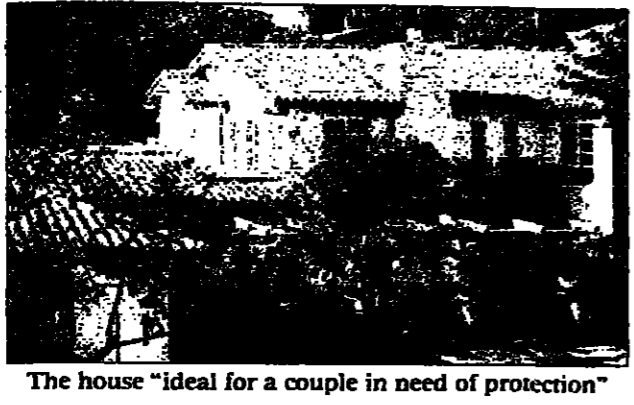
THE idyllic mansion where Dodi Fayed hoped to live with Diana, Princess of Wales, is being offered for sale at an apparent discount of about £1.7 million from its initial asking price.

When the five-acre estate in Malibu once owned by Julie Andrews and Blake Edwards went on the market last December, offers were invited in the region of £6.7 million, which local experts considered "a little high". Mohamed Al

Fayed, Dodi's father and the chairman of Harrods, is now said to be asking £5 million. Hidden from the coast road and the beach, the six-bedroom property has a walled sculpture garden, an octagonal glass dining room and two guest cottages where the heir to the Harrods fortune reportedly planned to house his bodyguards. Mr Fayed bought the Tuscan-styled mansion for about £4.8 million barely two months before

he and the Princess were killed. "He clearly loved the house and seemed to think it was right for them," a source close to the sale said. On its west side, brick steps lead down a steep cliff to Paradise Cove, which is accessible to the public at a cost of £10 per car. The house's palatial master bedroom has two bathrooms, a fireplace flanked by feather-filled sofas and a wardrobe "as large as a good-size New York apartment", according to the *Architectural Digest*.

The house was built in 1992 after Edward Sacks, a Florida investor, bought the estate from Ms Andrews and her husband for about £6 million and razed the one-storey ranch-style home in which they had lived. Mr Wilson's more grandiose creation, with a curving staircase and heavy pine beams, "would have been the dream house of a young couple sorely in need of its protection and tranquillity", the magazine's editor writes.



The house "ideal for a couple in need of protection"



The six-bedroom Malibu mansion overlooking the Pacific without being overlooked itself. Its features include a walled sculpture garden

Fellows sets date for leaving Palace

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE Queen's private secretary, Sir Robert Fellows, ended more than 18 months of speculation yesterday by announcing that he will retire from the post in February.

Sir Robert, 56, will, as expected, be succeeded by his deputy, Sir Robin Janvri. Mary Francis, 49, an assistant private secretary since 1995, will become the deputy.

It was confirmed in August 1996 that Sir Robert intended to resign after helping to steer the monarchy through one of the most turbulent periods of its recent history. He was expected to leave last year, but was persuaded to continue.

Palace sources said last night that Sir Robert, who has held the post since 1990,

expressed a wish to retire as early as 1995 and said then that he aimed to leave in 1999. His wife, Lady Jane, is a sister of the Princess of Wales. The family connection did not, however, protect Sir Robert from being identified by the Princess as one of the "old guard" of courtiers whom she came to regard as her enemies.

He has had to deal with the failed marriages of the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York, the fire at Windsor Castle, the Queen's decision to pay income tax and the death of the Princess.

A member of the Way Ahead strategic planning group, he has been partly responsible recently for a subtle shift in the Queen's relationship with her subjects, including mass receptions such as last night's at Buckingham Palace for more than 600 young achievers. The change has been widely seen as an attempt by the Palace to acknowledge Diana's legacy.

The son of a former Sandringham land agent, Sir Robert joined Buckingham Palace as an assistant private secretary in 1977 from a career in merchant banking. He is expected to return to the City. Sir Robin Janvri, 51, joined the Palace as press secretary from the Diplomatic Service in 1987.



Fellows: expected to take job in the City



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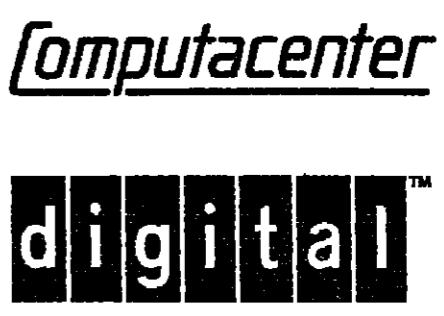
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Dumbing-down lecturer sacked over Times story

A LECTURER who admitted setting a nine-year-old A-level question for a degree examination has been sacked for bringing his college into disrepute.

Computer man admitted setting A-level question for a degree course, reports David Charter

is not appropriate to comment at the moment because we do not want to jeopardise the outcome of the industrial tribunal," she said.

Mr Cadbury's letter of dismissal from the college said: "The act of gross misconduct was your discussion with David Charter, education correspondent for *The Times*, on or about 14 February 1997, concerning actions you yourself had taken which had a damaging effect upon the reputation and integrity of the college and called into question your fitness to continue in employment."

Graham Nicholson, Mr Cadbury's lawyer, said the sacking should never have happened. "Mr Cadbury did not approach *The Times*, he answered the questions put to him. *The Times* approached him on a matter which has been of wide academic and public debate for years. What did he do wrong?"



Jethro Cadbury was suspended after an article appeared in *The Times*: "I had no reason to deny I set the paper, and talked about it," he said

Jethro Cadbury, a computer lecturer, lost his job even though the question paper for students at London Guildhall University had been accepted by the course's academic referee, a professor at the University of Ulster.

A key factor in his dismissal was his decision to explain to *The Times* that he chose the question because it matched his students' ability, and his view that school academic standards were being watered down.

"In the early 1980s there was some heavy maths in the computing A-level, but now that has all gone," he said in *The Times* last year. "You will find quite a lot of degree papers test at about the standard of A-level in the 1980s."

Mr Cadbury, 50, was sacked by South Thames College in southwest London, which runs the first two years of a computer studies degree in a franchise arrangement with London Guildhall University. He plans to bring a case for breach of contract and wrongful dismissal against the college later this month.

The disclosure in February last year, that one of three questions on a modular course final paper was copied from a 1988 A-level paper, raised fears over the declining standard of degree courses. But Deian Hopkin, Vice-Provost of London Guildhall, defended the course in a letter to *The Times*, saying it was "validated by a panel of experts and monitored through our quality assurance procedures which were satisfactorily audited in 1995 by the Higher Education Quality Council."

Mr Cadbury, from Tooting, South London, was suspended the day after the article appeared. He began to suffer from stress and was unable to appear at his disciplinary hearing, at which he was sacked earlier this year. Yes-

terday he said: "When *The Times* phoned me I had no reason to deny I set the exam paper and talked about it. I talked about standards, which was a major academic debate in the country at that time. It says in my contract I am allowed to enter into academic debate and express opinions which are not popular. I think my college should have said, if they didn't agree with me, that I was free to express my own opinion."

He is planning to return to computer programming, which he left ten years ago for a career in teaching. He added: "I was a bit idealistic and thought I was going into a better quality of life, but now I have had to stop teaching altogether. I had expected to go on to my mid-60s. As far as I am concerned, they have stolen 15 years of my life."

Mr Cadbury consulted his contract from South Thames College before he originally spoke to *The Times*, which learnt of the A-level degree question from an anonymous source. The contract states: "Academic staff have freedom within the law to question and test received wisdom relating to academic matters, and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions about academic matters without placing themselves in jeopardy or losing the jobs and privileges they have."

Heather Barton, head of human resources at the college, refused to answer questions about the sacking of Mr Cadbury. "We have decided it

A-level question is used in degree course exam

The Higher Education Quality Council said that the claim about the use of a 1988 A-level question in a degree course exam was "unfounded". The council said that the question was "not a valid question" and that the student who used it was "not a valid student".

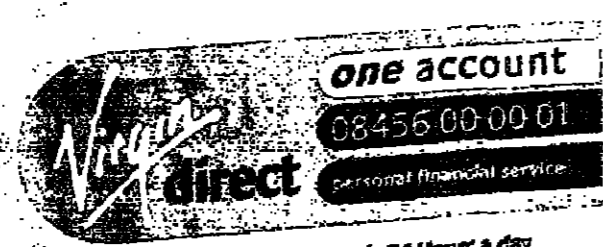
The report in *The Times* in February last year

How hard is your money working for you?

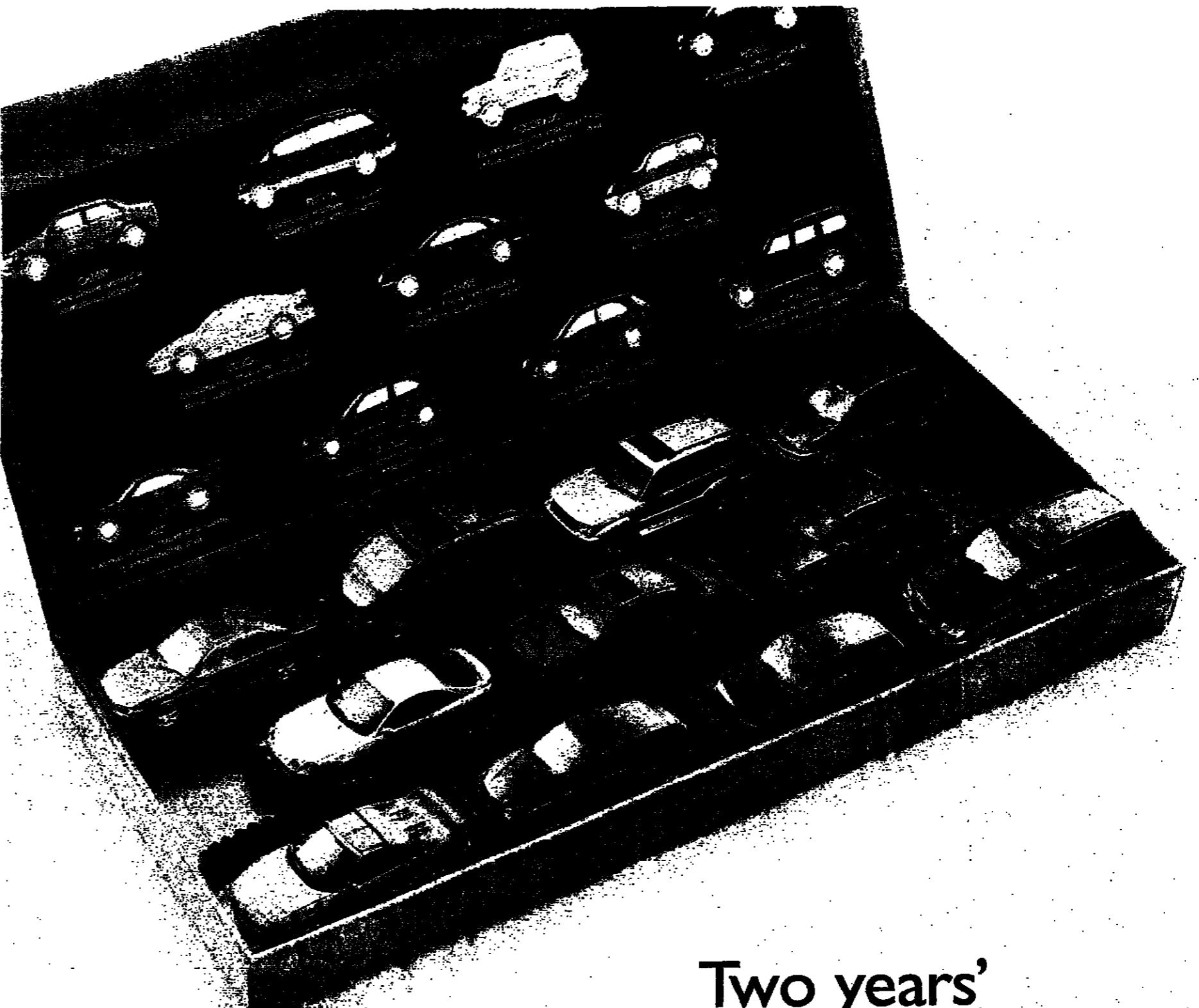
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Rapid return of the woman who sank Howard

ANN WIDDECOMBE has been drafted back into frontline politics to lead the Tory attack on the Government's most vulnerable flanking waiting lists and hospital closures.

Miss Widdecombe has made a remarkably rapid return after snuffing Michael Howard's chances in the leadership election a year ago, when she described him as having "something of the night about him". She has been rewarded because of her successful raids on the Government from the back benches.

William Hague's decision to give her the shadow health portfolio will ensure that she retains a high profile. It was the first appointment Mr Hague made yesterday morning. The response from the redoubtable Miss Widdecombe was entirely predictable: "Thank you. When can I get stuck in?"

Miss Widdecombe's fighting qualities, which destroyed Michael Howard last year, will be seriously tested. The Tories' record on the health service was a big factor in Labour's landslide election victory. In last week's *Times* MORI poll, Labour enjoyed a 41 point lead over the Tories on their health policies.

But waiting lists soared to a new record last month and Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, was forced to admit

A year ago Ann Widdecombe was

in disgrace.

Andrew Pierce

reports on

her comeback

that he did not know how many hospitals face closure or cutbacks.

The Government's reorganisation of the health service and a continuing financial shortage is causing unease on the Labour back benches on a subject on which they once seemed impregnable. Miss Widdecombe has been charged with the task of fuelling that unrest.

The Tory health team has been bolstered by the promotion of Alan Duncan, one of the brightest members of the 1992 intake and close ally of Mr Hague, to his first frontbench post. He will be Miss Widdecombe's deputy. The promotion of a Hague favourite to the health department further underlines the issue's rising importance in the Tory fightback.

Tony Blair endured his most uncomfortable moment at the dispatch box as Prime

Minister last month when he was taunted by Mr Hague over the latest rise in waiting lists. But the Prime Minister has reaffirmed the election pledge to cut the total by 100,000 in this Parliament.

So far Mr Dobson, who many political observers had written off before the election, has contained the political fallout. He has proved to be one of the most successful Cabinet ministers. He is blunt and combative at the dispatch box and has a flair for publicity.

But he will find Miss Widdecombe more than a match. Her performances on the backbenches, not least in the hunting debate, have even drawn applause from the Labour back benches. Her gift for self-promotion has been a lesson to Conservative Central Office which has looked on in envy as the former Prisons Minister generated more headlines than the entire Shadow Cabinet.

Yesterday Miss Widdecombe said Labour had made rash promises at the election on which it could not deliver. "You could not go five yards without seeing a huge poster saying that hospital waiting lists would shortly be reduced. But lo and behold we now find it will take half a parliament to bring it back even to the situation we left it in."

"In Labour's efforts to hoodwink the general public they



Ann Widdecombe: "When can I get stuck in?" she asked after being promoted

have hoodwinked themselves, and now they are living with the results of that."

Her return to the back benches is all the more remarkable considering that her demolition job on Mr Howard, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, was only one year ago. Miss Widdecombe, 50, sug-

gested that Mr Howard had misled the House of Commons over his account of the sacking of Derek Lewis, Director of the Prison Service, which followed the breakout from Parkhurst prison in 1995. The two politicians have since effected a public reconciliation. Now they will be

neighbours at the Shadow Cabinet table as Mr Howard is to stay on as Shadow Foreign Secretary. But privately, having conceded to intermediaries they will work together, they still loathe each other.

Leading article, page 21

NEW SHADOW CABINET

Leader of the Opposition.....	William Hague
Deputy Leader.....	Peter Lilley
Foreign Affairs.....	Michael Howard
Shadow Chancellor.....	Francis Maude
Home Affairs.....	Sir Norman Fowler
Party Chairman.....	Lord Parkinson
Deputy Party Chairman.....	Michael Ancram
Environment, Transport and the Regions.....	Gillian Shephard
Shadow Leader of the Commons.....	Sir George Young
Trade and Industry.....	John Redwood
Shadow Leader of the Lords.....	Viscount Cranborne
Defence.....	John Major
Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury.....	David Heathcoat-Amory
Social Security.....	Iain Duncan Smith
Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.....	Michael Jack
Northern Ireland.....	Andrew MacKay
Education.....	Ann Widdecombe
Health and Employment.....	David Willetts
Constitutional Affairs.....	Liam Fox
Culture, Media and Sport.....	Peter Ainsworth
International Development.....	Gary Streeter
Chief Whip (Commons).....	James Arbuthnot
Chief Whip (Lords).....	Lord Stratford

William Hague also made the following appointments to the Conservative front bench:

Patrick Nicholson (Agriculture); Oliver Letwin (Constitutional Affairs); Keith Simpson (Defence); Theresa May and Daniel Green (Education and Employment); Bernard Jenkin (Environment, Transport and the Regions); Michael Trend and Cheryl Gillan (Foreign Affairs); Alan Duncan and Philip Hammond (Health); Quentin Davies (Social Security); Christopher Chope (Trade and Industry); John Whittingdale (Treasury); Patrick McLoughlin (Deputy Chief Whip); Caroline Spelman (Junior Whip); Andrew Lansley and David Prior (Conservative Central Office)

Big-hitter put in to face Brown

By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent

FRANCIS MAUDE, a cricket fanatic and former barrister and merchant banker, has been put into bat against the Chancellor after powerful performances at the dispatch box.

As Shadow Culture Secretary, Mr Maude exploited Labour tensions over the Millennium Dome and gave his government counterpart, Chris Smith, a testing time in the Commons.

William Hague will be hoping that he can also put Gordon Brown on the spot. Peter Lilley, Mr Maude's predecessor as Shadow Chancellor, was not a success against Mr Brown in the Commons.

Mr Maude, 44, has worked closely with Mr Hague since the Tory leader was appointed and has helped with some of his main speeches. He will be essential in helping to deliver the Tory leader's hard line on a single currency and trying to prevent divisions within the party.

The new Shadow Chancellor still needs, however, to win public popularity. He is largely unrecognisable and needs to undertake more media appearances.

Mr Maude, Financial Secretary to the Treasury in 1990-92 and a favourite of Margaret Thatcher's, will try to exploit

Cabinet disputes over public spending and increasing conflict with unions over public sector pay.

Mr Maude, who was called to the Bar in 1977, served for seven years in the Thatcher and Major administrations. Within two years of entering the Commons in 1983, he became an assistant whip and in 1987 he became Corporate Affairs Minister at the Department of Trade and Industry.

Two years later he became a Foreign Office Minister where, ironically, given his Euroscepticism, he was involved in negotiating the Maastricht treaty. The document carries his signature, along with the Foreign Secretary at the time, Douglas (now Lord) Hurd.

After losing his Warwickshire North seat at the 1992 general election, he swiftly took a job in the City as a merchant banker. At the last election he held Horsham, West Sussex, for the Tories with a majority of 14,862.

Mr Maude, who is married with five children, is said to be a useful batsman. At the DTI he and his private secretary used to practise in the office with a plastic ball and old bat. His ministerial Red Box was used as a wicket.

Brain-power helps Willetts repair career damage

By Jill Sherman

THE promotion of David Willetts, or "two brains" as he is commonly known, was one of the more ambitious appointments made by William Hague yesterday.

Mr Willetts, once regarded as having too much grey matter and too little political nous has jumped straight into the job of Shadow Education and Employment Secretary. The Thatcherite free-marketeer, who for years was seen as a policy wonk sporting bicycle clips, has been given one of the most senior jobs, completing his political rehabilita-

tion. He was bitterly disappointed two years ago, when he had to resign as Paymaster General having been accused of misleading the Standards and Privileges Committee over his part in the cash-for-questions affair. He was said to have "dissembled".

At the time his political career appeared seriously damaged, but within months he sneaked back into Conservative Central Office and was given a key role in drawing up policy initiatives during the general election.

Since Mr Hague was elected leader, Mr Willetts, 42 and the MP for Havant, has served as a front-bench

spokesman on employment but has been given little chance to shine. Although he has worked hard, attacking the Government's Welfare to Work schemes and highlighting tensions on student loans, Mr Willetts has until now not been one of the main players in Mr Hague's team.

His ability to grasp all policy nuances, however, could prove invaluable against the wily David Blunkett, who has managed a transformation of Labour's education policy with the minimum political damage. Mr Willetts's main task will be keeping up the attacks on student loans and growing class sizes.

An expert in social security and welfare reform, he had been tipped as a successor to Iain Duncan Smith. He would have cherished the job but aides close to Mr Hague made clear that the Tory leader regards Mr Willetts as one of the party's "most productive thinkers". They also suggested that Mr Hague is keen for Mr Willetts to initiate a fundamental review of Tory education policy.

Tory leaders now argue that it is time for the party to draw up alternative policies to Labour's and Mr Willetts will be seen as a key player in rebuilding the party's credibility in the next few years.



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MODEL ON POLITICS

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Ministers were urged to avoid BSE hysteria

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT officials were preoccupied by the need to avoid public alarm, and to protect cattle exports, when they first told ministers of the existence of "mad cow" disease.

A confidential memo sent to a junior Agriculture Minister on July 7, 1987, highlighted concern that "ill-informed publicity could lead to hysterical demands for immediate, draconian government measures", the BSE inquiry was told yesterday.

The memo, from John Suich, head of the ministry's animal health division at the time, said: "This in turn could alarm other countries and lead them to prohibit imports of cattle, semen and embryos from this country."

The memo was sent to Donald Thompson, who, as parliamentary secretary, was a junior member of the Ministry of Agriculture team, and was copied to John MacGregor, who had just become Agriculture Minister.

The note spoke of a suggestion that the disease might be "the result of a genetic disorder" and said, with a confidence later proved misplaced, that there was "no evidence that it is transmissible to humans".

Ministers were advised that it would be inappropriate

and premature to consider imposing restrictions in the herds where affected cattle have been identified. The best plan was to acknowledge the existence of the disease and to emphasise that it was being thoroughly investigated, said the memo from Mr Suich, who has since died. Until more was known, "no action beyond attempting to ensure that publicity is well-informed and not unduly alarmist".

Ministers had first heard about "a hitherto unknown disorder of cattle called bovine spongiform encephalopathy" in a memo from the Chief Veterinary Officer dated June 5, 1987. This was about seven



Franklin said officials had acted correctly

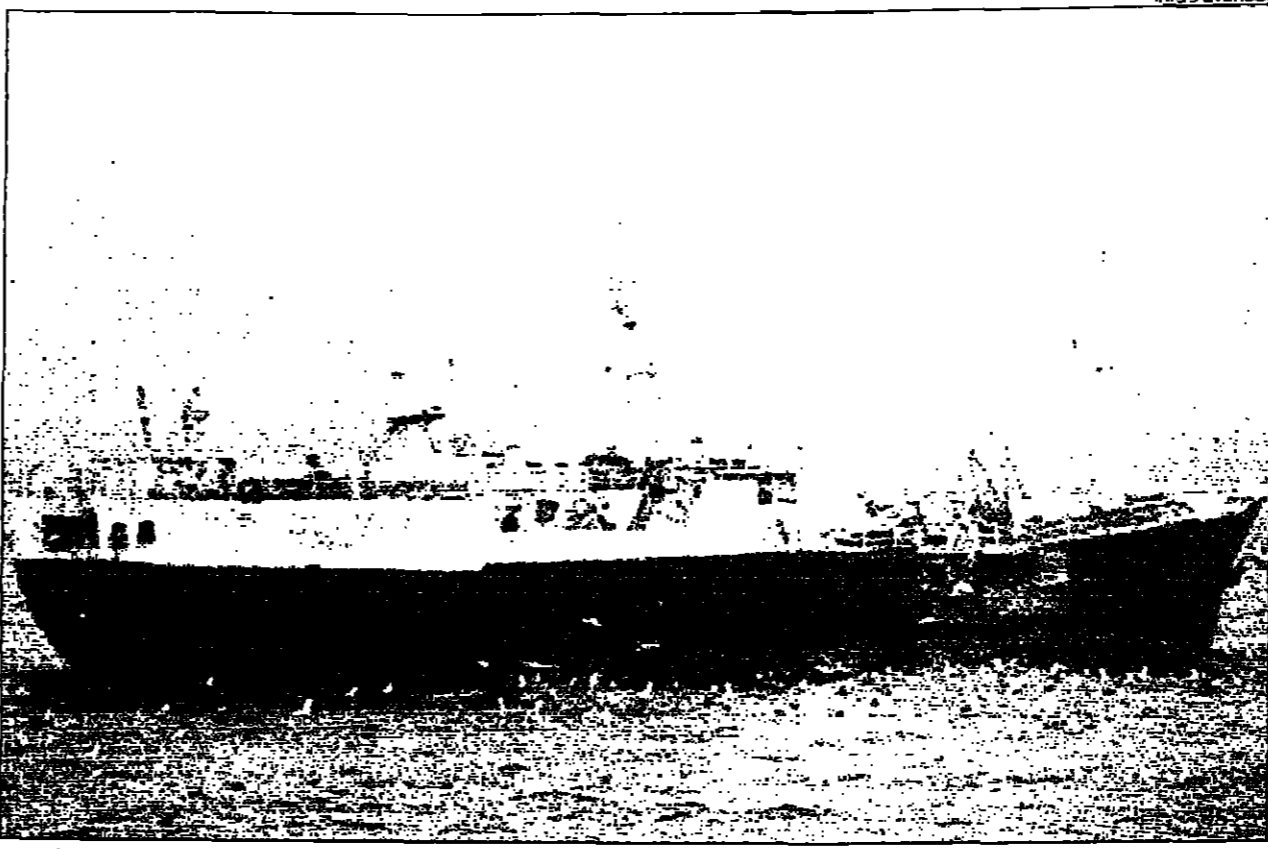
months after government veterinary scientists first identified BSE as a disease.

Sir Michael Franklin, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture from 1983 to 1987, told the inquiry that officials had not been too concerned about adverse publicity. "It is very understandable that, when you have a new phenomenon, there is a danger that it can be misunderstood."

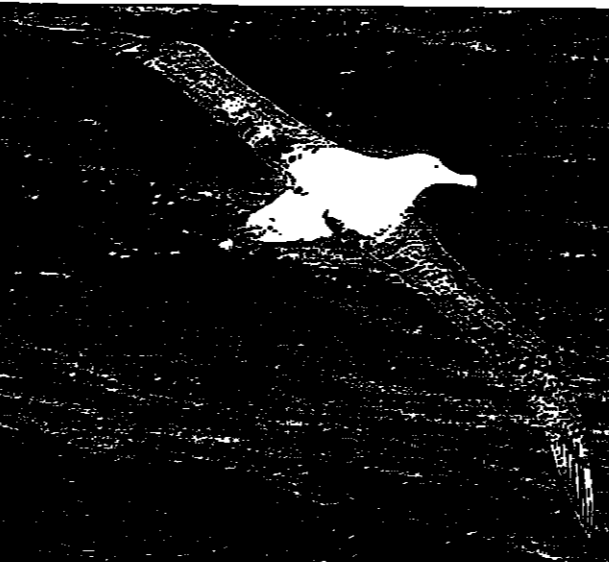
"It would be the concern of the Chief Veterinary Officer not to arouse undue alarm. I think it was an understandable concern. It was not the only one or the primary one."

Sir Michael, the most senior civil servant yet to appear before the inquiry, also had no criticism of government scientists for failing to inform ministers about BSE earlier. "It seems to me the scientists were wrestling with trying to understand what it was."

Asked whether, with hindsight, he could see any faults in the way the ministry had acted, Sir Michael said: "I do not think I can put my finger on a particular organisational weakness that made the problem worse than it proved to be." The inquiry, chaired by Sir Nicholas Phillips, is expected to present its final report next summer.



A Chilean longliner off South Georgia. Illegal fishing is threatening wildlife including the wandering albatross, below



Spy satellites to stop plunder of Antarctic waters

FROM NICK NUTTALL IN TROMSO

SPY satellites are likely to be deployed by Britain, France and the United States to crack down on pirates fishing in the southern seas.

Overfishing in Antarctic waters was reaching alarming levels and threatening wildlife from whales to seabirds, the 22nd Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in Tromsø, Norway, heard yesterday.

Scientists with the Commission for the Convention of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, which advises governments including Britain's, said the catch from "illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries" was now around 115,000 tonnes a year. A safe level, for a deep long-living species such as the Patagonian toothfish, is 20,000 tonnes a year.

In a tough and unprecedented statement yesterday, the commission described the pirates as causing "grave concern". It said that the illegal fishing posed a "serious threat to the stocks" of toothfish and could threaten animals and birds higher up the food chain.

The scientists said the illegal fishery was responsible for killing 20 times more seabirds than the legal one. Fishing for toothfish involves the use of long lines, baited with thousands of hooks, to reach depths of 1,500 metres. Fishermen must sink the lines quickly and work at night to avoid birds such as wandering albatross becoming caught on the hooks. However, the pirates, believed to be mainly Chilean, Argentinian, Spanish and Norwegian-flagged vessels, flout the rules. David Walton,

of the British Antarctic Survey, said that it had put cameras on the seabed to record the toothfish. "We need to learn a lot more about its importance in Antarctica's web of life given the levels of fish appearing on world markets are far above the quotas," he said.

The Norway meeting has brought together 43 countries to try to tackle threats to the world's last great wilderness. Stuart Prior, head of Antarctic policy for New Zealand, called the overfishing a "cancer" that put the entire Antarctic treaty at risk.

France and America have been holding private talks about deploying satellites to spy, spot and track the pirates and yesterday a British official said it was considering a similar move. He said: "We should be throwing all the technology we have at this. What we are seeing is a free-for-all, the complete pillage of the Patagonian toothfish."

Studies suggest that much of the fish is being landed in countries such as Mauritius and Namibia, which are not party to fishing agreements. One option being considered is to put pressure on these states by threatening to cut overseas aid or applying international trade sanctions.

Jim Barnes, of the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition — made up of groups including Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace and the World-wide Fund for Nature — said that pooling frigates and protection vessels was vital to keep the governments ahead of the pirates.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Teenagers accused over body

A part-time firefighter and a boy of 15 appeared in court yesterday, accused of murdering Sylvia Flemming, 17, whose dismembered body was found on Saturday in the foundations of a partially built house in Omagh, Co Tyrone.

Stephen Scott, 26, and the boy were remanded in custody by Enniskillen magistrates. Paul Rigby, 19, unemployed, from Omagh, and a girl of 14 were both charged with assisting in the disposal of the body and were also remanded in custody. The two youngest were not named for legal reasons.

Baby snitcher

Two burglars were arrested when Tom Oliver overheard them on a baby-listener linked to his daughter's house, four doors away, in Hartlepool. Lee Normanton, 22, was jailed for 22 months and his brother Brian, 17, was given 100 hours' community service.

Soldier drowns

A soldier has died after being found floating unconscious in the sea off the Dhokelia military base in Cyprus. Private Tony Massingham, 20, from Lincoln, served with the 7th Royal Anglian. Police said there were no suspicious circumstances.

Dunblane charge

An arrest warrant was issued for a man accused of threatening to kill the children of Dunblane and terrorist Rosemary Hunter, founder of the Snowdrop anti-gun campaign. Clive Hill, 29, of Norwich, failed to appear at Stirling Sheriff Court.

Allwood babies

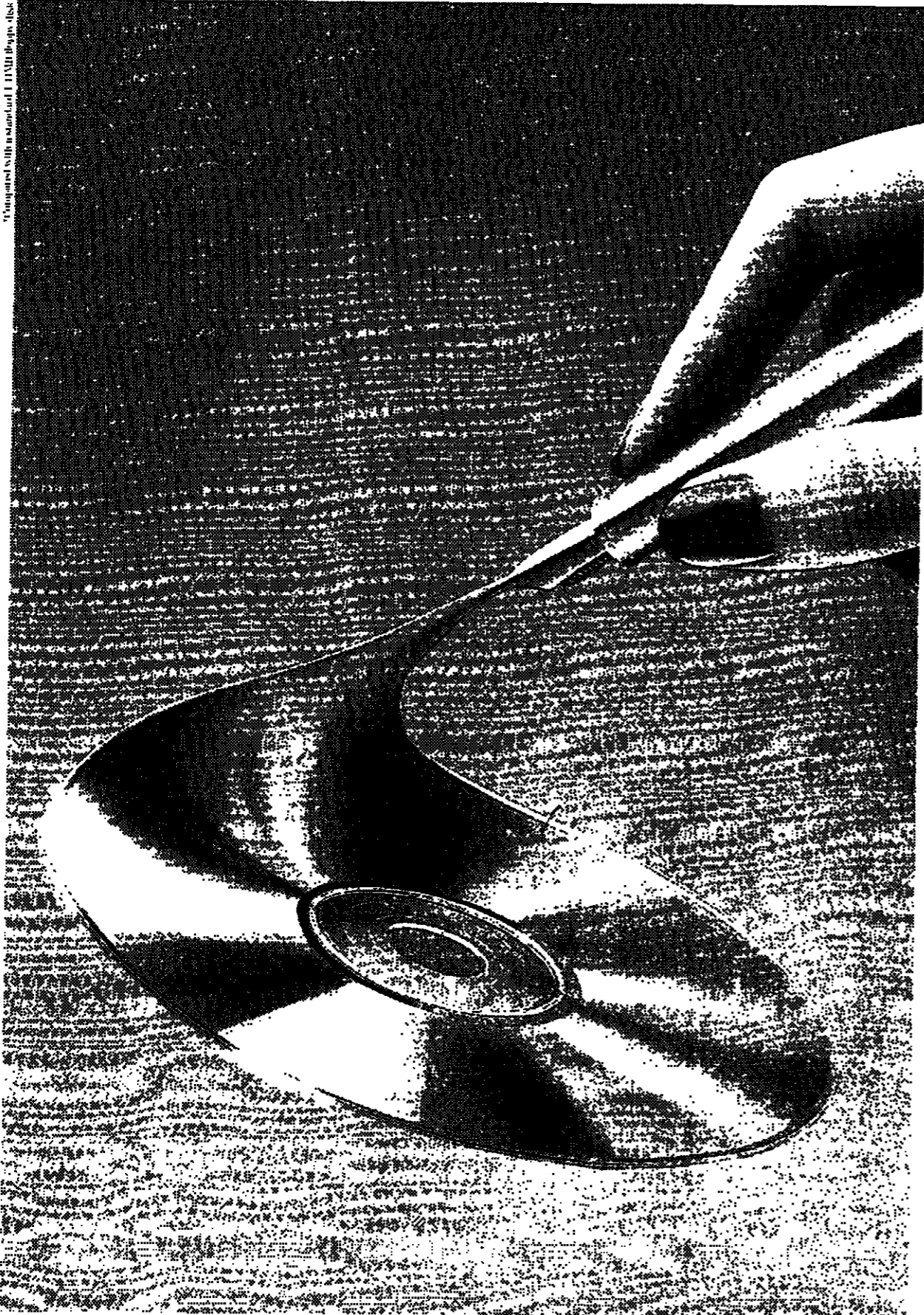
Mandy Allwood, 32, the woman who lost all eight babies that were conceived after fertility treatment, has confirmed that she is a month into another pregnancy, five months after giving birth to a daughter, Color. She may be carrying twins.

Nanny verdict

Helen Eckstein, 22, a nanny who admitted two charges of theft after being filmed stealing from her employer's handbag, was ordered to do 80 hours' community service and pay £170 in compensation and costs by magistrates in Devizes, Wiltshire.

Bottling out

British drinkers consume vast quantities of wine that has gone off because they are too polite to take it back, according to Threshers, the wine merchants. Of the 930 million bottles drunk each year, one in 20 is bad but only a quarter are returned, it says.



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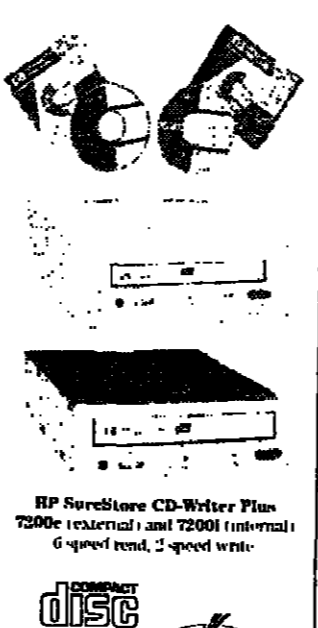


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Choir given the sack for singing too softly

By A CORRESPONDENT

AN ANGLICAN choir has been sacked for singing too softly. The eight singers, from St Mary's Church in Weymouth, Dorset, were asked to leave after the resignation of their organist and choir manager, John Wycliffe-Jones.

Mr Wycliffe-Jones, 72, quit after church wardens criticised the choir's inability to sing strongly enough to lead the congregation's hymns.

Mr Wycliffe-Jones said he was very upset to hear that the choir had been sacked. "It was my decision to leave, but it is very unfortunate that they have now seen fit to dismiss the choir as well," he said. "The whole affair is particularly upsetting for the singers, who did such good work for the church. They have sung every Sunday morning and there has been a choir at St Mary's since the church was built in 1817. It also appears that the church has decided not to appoint a new organist because of the cost."

The Rev Michael Stear, rector of St Mary's, said he was saddened by the episode and confirmed that the choir members were no longer attending the church. "It was with great sadness that I had to announce the resignation of the organist and choir manager. My church wardens and I believe that the choir ministry should come to a conclusion at the same time as his resignation took effect."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Teenagers accused over body

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Soldier drowns

A soldier has died after being found floating unconscious in the sea off the Dhekelia military base in Cyprus. Private Tony McLaughlin, 20, from London, served with the 1st Royal Airborne Division. Police said there were no suspicious circumstances.

Dunblane charge

An arrest warrant was issued for a man accused of threatening the lives of the children of Dunblane and terrorising the town. He is charged with the murder of a child in the Dunblane massacre in 1989. The man, 39, was charged with a charge of murder in 1997.

Alliwood babies

Months after the birth of a baby, a woman who had all eight babies that were conceived after fertility treatment has announced that she is a fourth time pregnant. The woman, 38, is pregnant with a daughter. She says she may be pregnant with a boy.

Nanny verdict

A woman who was charged with the murder of a child in 1997 has been found not guilty. The woman, 38, was charged with the murder of a child in 1997. She was found not guilty in 1998.

Bottling out

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Eric Albada-Jelgersma, with his wife. The Dutchman, who bought a majority share in Château Giscours vineyards, with its 19th-century château, has recently been questioned



Ferment over 'doctored' claret

THE Bordeaux wine industry, bastion of ancient wine-making tradition, was in a state of shock yesterday after allegations that one of the most famous vineyards in France may have doctored its products using milk, water, acids and inferior wine from a neighbouring region.

Two former managers at Château Giscours, classified a grand cru in the great Margaux wine-making area of the Médoc, have been placed under formal legal investigation on suspicion of fraudulently "improving" the wine's taste, *Le Monde* reported.

Wine industry analysts said that if the allegations were proved, the scandal could have a devastating effect on the reputation and price of France's most famous wine.

As an *appellation contrôlée* wine, Château Giscours should be produced and bottled under strictly enforced rules, but according to the newspaper the cellar records at the vineyard show that



water and certain natural acids may have been added to "correct" the taste.

The vineyard's production books, examined by Bordeaux police investigators, also allegedly show that milk was used to remove certain disagreeable odours in the wine. This process is usually carried out using charcoal, but milk is considered more effective and does not discolour the resulting wine. Such techniques are often employed, under supervision, to produce less grand and sought-after wines.

The most serious allegation

against the the Médoc vineyard is that wine from the neighbouring Haut-Médoc, an inferior *cru bourgeois*, was used to "reinforce" Château Giscours wine made from young vines. "To help the No 2 wine at Giscours, we used a vatful of Haut-Médoc to improve the Margaux," Jean-Michel Ferrandez, the former director of the company which runs Château Giscours, was quoted as saying.

Mixing different *appellations* or vintages is heresy under French wine-making traditions and specifically

The reputation of top vintages has been jeopardised by claims that lesser wines and even milk were used to conceal flaws.

Ben Macintyre in Paris writes

Giscours sells for around £20 to £30, said Alistair Larmyman, a wine buyer for Simpkin & James. "There's been huge interest in this vintage, and it's practically sold out. 1995 was their first good vintage since 1990, and it's being traded very heavily."

Le Monde reported that more than 1,400 hectolitres (more than 180,000 bottles) of the 1995 vintage could be affected by the suspected fraud.

Despite an unremarkable 1997 vintage, the price of claret is soaring, with an increase of up to 20 per cent for *grands crus*. But the allegations involving Château Giscours could burst the Bordeaux bubble, according to some experts who fear that the wine's image may be critically undermined.

"Drastic regulations have been in place for more than half a century... failure to respect those requirements to the letter will lead to an undermining of the entire edifice," Jean-Yves Nau, a

wine expert, declared in *Le Monde*.

"Isolated or not, there is every reason to think this business will bring harm to the whole region... the Château Giscours affair reminds us that the great French wines only retain their fame by adherence to a tradition."

The Château Giscours vineyard, with its 19th-century château, was purchased by the winemaking Tari family after the war. In 1995, a majority share in the company running the vineyard was bought by Eric Albada-Jelgersma, a Dutch millionaire.

On May 15, Mr Albada-Jelgersma was interviewed by investigators in Bordeaux, but he has not been placed under formal investigation.

"If the allegations are confirmed, it would be a terrible blow to one of the most prestigious names in the Médoc, to the Margaux *appellation* but also to the entire Bordeaux wine business," *Le Monde* observed.

Israel to reopen Christ's baptism site for pilgrims

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE site on the River Jordan where tradition has it that Jesus was baptised may soon be opened permanently for millennium pilgrims, after being a closed military site with limited access since the 1967 war.

"We have made an application to the Ministry of Defence and we are confident of a positive response," an Israel Tourist Ministry spokeswoman said. Last week Moshe Katsav, the Minister for Tourism, said he wanted to see the site open before 2000, when five million Christian pilgrims are expected to visit the Holy Land.

Despite problems over Israeli-Palestinian peace accords, the treaty between Israel and Jordan in 1994 has held, and it was agreed this week to twin Tel Aviv with the Jordan capital, Amman.

The holy site, surrounded by minefields and accessible to outsiders only twice a year, is located on the west bank, near Jericho. Known in Arabic as Qasr al-Yahud (The Jewish Fortress), it is a ford north of the Dead Sea. St Mark's Gospel tells that when Jesus was 30, "it came to pass in those days that

Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptised of John in Jordan".

Mr Katsav, who is spearheading extensive Israeli preparations for the millennium, pledged that, if the site were reopened on a permanent basis, the ministry would allocate the resources necessary to develop it.

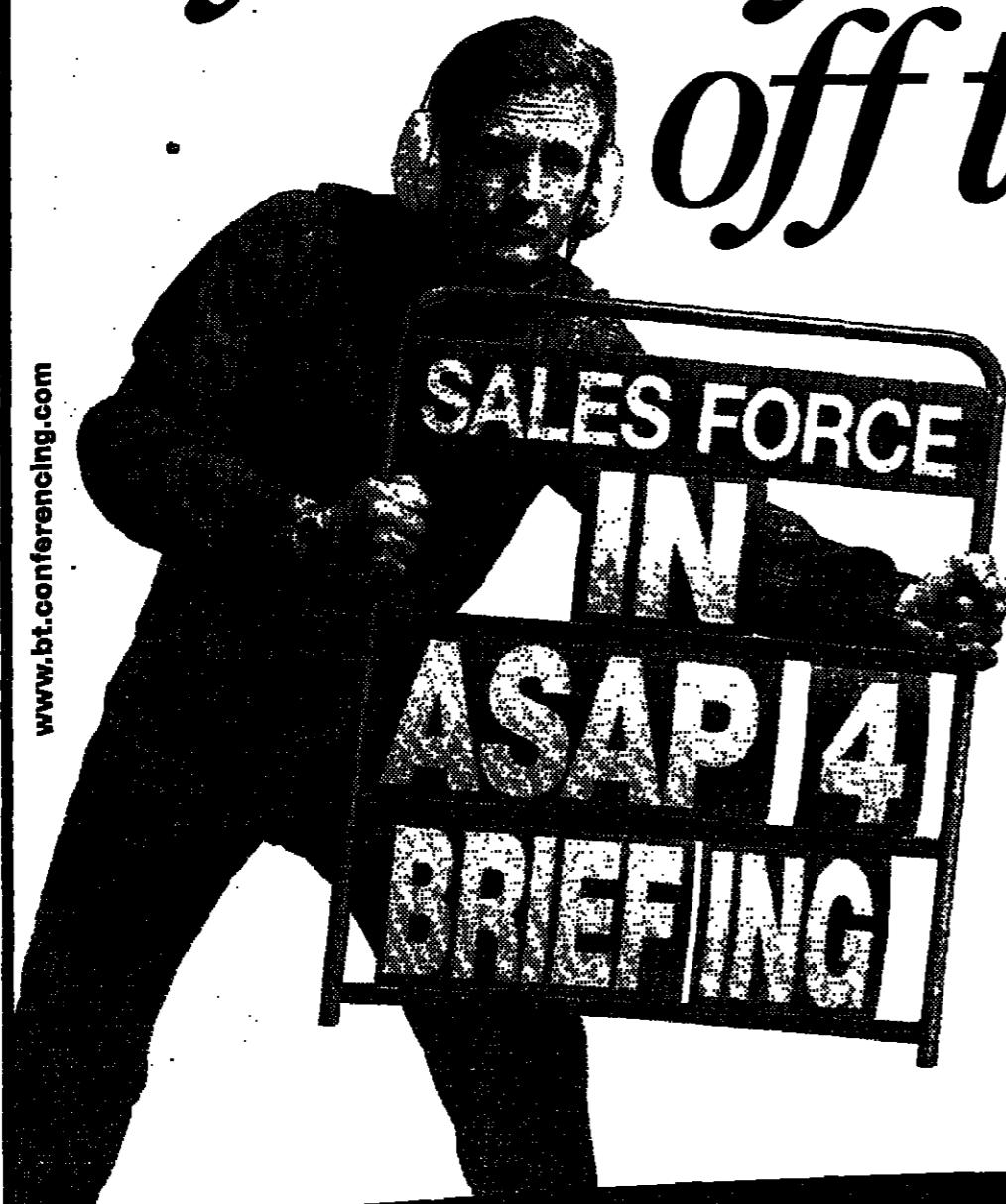
Diplomatic sources estimate that millions of Christians would try to visit the spot, if it was made more accessible. Until the 1967 Six-Day War, it was visited by more than half a million people a year.

The Israeli head of the Jordan Valley District Council, David Levy, said that keeping the historic site closed for so long had been a terrible mistake, especially as the Jordanians had begun developing a parallel holy site on the opposite bank.



A priest performs a baptism at a site on the River Jordan where tradition says Christ was baptised

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Mr Botha leaves in jovial mood after the hearing

Botha trial told of plot to murder critics of apartheid

FROM SAM KILEY IN GEORGE

THE former South African President, P. W. Botha, yesterday returned to court to face accusations that he knew of plans to murder political opponents outside the country and that he sanctioned the "neutralising" and "destruction" of anti-apartheid activists.

Paul van Zyl, the first witness, presented documents, including minutes of 1979 from the State Security Council (SSC) which Mr Botha chaired, briefing ministers and security chiefs about proposals to set up clandestine units to conduct operations "anywhere in the world" during which the "rules of international law could be violated".

Mr van Zyl, executive secretary of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, told the court: "The investigative unit of the TRC has received information on cross-border operations where a range of people were killed, using parcel bombs."

He said that among the parcel-bomb victims had been Ruth First, the prominent anti-apartheid activist who was

killed by a mail bomb in Maputo, Mozambique. Ms First, former wife of Joe Slovo, who was Nelson Mandela's Housing Minister until his death last year, was the subject of a Hollywood film, *A World Apart*. A Communist and prominent white member of the African National Congress, she remains one of the apartheid-era martyrs to many South Africans.

Dulcie September, exiled head of the ANC's French operation, was killed in Paris in a similar way, Mr van Zyl said.

"What the TRC would want to know, in fact, [from Mr Botha] is whether the SSC did or did not authorise such operations," Mr van Zyl said.

On trial for refusing to obey a subpoena to appear at the commission's hearings into the SSC, Mr Botha, 82, also faced allegations that he attended an SSC meeting in 1980 at which a plan to "develop the capacity to destroy/neutralise



A protester shouts anti-Botha slogans as he waits outside the George magistrates' court yesterday for the former President to arrive

any concentration of terrorists and conventional forces" in South West Africa (now Namibia) was discussed. "Destroy and neutralise clearly means destroy and kill," Mr van Zyl said.

On trial in front of a black judge, Victor Luguj, Mr Botha, who chaired the SSC for ten years from 1978, first as Defence Minister and then as Prime Minister, and from 1984 as President, arrived in court clearly relishing the attention denied him since he was ousted from power by F. W. de Klerk in 1990.

Witch hunt threatens to awake the sleeping Afrikaner tiger

After dismissing the truth commission as a circus and a witch-hunt of Afrikaners which threatened to "awaken the sleeping tiger in the Afrikaner nation" the former President, seated on a padded chair to one side of the dock, leaned back to enjoy Mr van Zyl's cross-examination at the hands of Lapa Laubscher, one of the country's most celebrated lawyers.

Mr Botha's supporters giggled with anticipation of the confrontation between Mr van Zyl, 28, and Mr Laubscher. The defence, he said, would prove both that the commission had violated the law which established it, and second, that it acted with malice in its relations with Mr Botha.

Mr Botha smiled and craned his neck to look behind him to his elderly little fan club of men in moustaches and a handful of women, as Mr Laubscher managed to get Mr van Zyl to admit that the commission had never established what a quorum of its members would be for subcommittees. He also showed that only nine of a full commission quorum of 15 commissioners had been present when a discussing Mr Botha's case, when he was issued with a September deadline to finish answering written questions presented to him seven months earlier.

"If you acted illegally, there were no hearings [of the commission] at all," said Mr Laubscher. "That's a matter for legal argument," Mr van Zyl snapped back.

Crocodile snaps up new mate

WITH a screaming headline of magnificently mixed metaphors, the *Cape Times* yesterday trumpeted "Groot Krokodil Snares English Rose" in announcing P. W. Botha's "love affair" with a Cape Town-based British secretary 25 years his junior (Sam Kiley writes).

Dubbed the Great Crocodile for his cold heart and snapping manner in parliament, Mr Botha, 82, broke off his engagement with Reinet le Water Naude earlier this month because she continued to "see" an old flame. His wife, Elize, died last year. Now he plans to marry Barbara Robertson, 57, later this month.

Former President 'abused policemen'

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

ZIMBABWE'S first ceremonial President, the Rev Canaan Banana, went on trial yesterday charged with sexually abusing policemen and soldiers assigned to protect him, as well as his cook, a job-seeker and a hitch-hiker.

Mr Banana, 62, replied "not guilty" when Judge Godfrey Chidyauku asked for his plea to six charges of indecent assault, two of sodomy and two of attempted sodomy.

Augustine Chikumbira, the Director of Public Prosecutions, said that the distinguished international diplomat, academic and former Methodist minister had "taken advantage of his authority". He alleged that if the men spurned him, Mr Banana would have them punished "under the guise that they had committed acts of misconduct". The allegations, which

were kept a secret for years by government officials, are a major embarrassment for President Mugabe, who has run an anti-gay campaign since 1995. Zimbabwean law does not address homosexuality, but sodomy is classed as an illegal "unnatural act".

Mr Banana is alleged to have invited most of the men into his office at State House, the presidential residence, and plied them with liquor before trying to molest them.

Students riot: About 40 students broke through a police cordon and smashed dozens of shop windows with stones in central Harare, forcing shoppers to flee. It was the third successive day of protests by students demanding an end to state corruption and a doubling of their state grants. They also want President Mugabe's resignation.

WORLD SUMMARY

Colombia poll goes to run-off

Colombians will choose their President in a run-off vote on June 21 after polls on Sunday resulted in a near-tie between the two main parties (Gabriella Gamini writes).

With nearly all the votes counted, Horacio Serpa, of the ruling Liberals, narrowly won with 34.4 per cent compared with 34.3 per cent for Andrés Pastrana, the Conservative and a former Mayor of Bogotá. Noemi Sanín, an independent, gained 27 per cent.

Palestinians boost security

Jerusalem: Palestinian Authority security forces have stepped up training in case of renewed conflict in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to senior Israeli military sources (Christopher Walker writes). The peace process is in deep crisis, with talks now deadlocked for 15 months.

Cyberpolice to catch hackers

Tokyo: A call to create a "cyberpolice" force to combat high-tech crimes that have become a global threat with the use of computer technology has been made by the head of Japan's National Police Agency, Yuko Sekiguchi. He was addressing a meeting of regional police heads. (AFP)

Montenegro's reformers win

Podgorica: Montenegro's reformers will have a majority in parliament after a poll victory over loyalists of President Milošević, sources said. With 94 per cent of the vote counted, the election commission said a coalition led by the republic's President Djukanovic had 49.5 per cent. (Reuters)

'Ice' dealers face death

Singapore: Parliament here toughened its anti-drug laws by extending the mandatory death sentence to include traffickers in "ice" — the street name for crystal methamphetamine — and introducing mandatory terms of imprisonment and caring for addicts. (Reuters)

Mir fault may delay docking

Moscow: Mir's central computer was out of order for a third successive day, threatening to postpone the Russian space station's last rendezvous with the American shuttle *Discovery*, which is to pick up the astronaut Andrew Thomas on Friday. (AP)

Private landowners incensed by ANC proposal to give squatters rights

As the African National Congress-led Government in South Africa heads towards next year's elections, it has stirred fresh controversy with a Bill which, it claims, declares open season for squatter invasions of private land and buildings.

Such incursions, which often involved the building of thousands of shanty-town shacks or, on some occasions, the forcible takeover of housing, were a feature of the run-up to the election in 1994.

Homeless migrants were shrewd at exploiting the polit-

Farmers may take the law into their own hands, writes R. W. Johnson

ical difficulties of evicting the poor at such a time. Similar squatter invasions by Transkei peasants into the Western Cape were allegedly used to boost the ANC vote.

The new Bill — the Prevention of Illegal Evictions from the Unlawful Occupation of Land — in effect makes squatter invasions impossible on state-owned land but almost impossible to stop on private

land. If squatter huts mushroom on a landowner's farm, business premises or garden, he may not evict them.

A court must inform the squatters of their right to defence and legal aid and, if it then decides that the rights or needs of the elderly, children, the disabled or households headed by women are likely to be infringed by eviction, the squatters must be allowed to

stay. Given that all these categories are well represented in squatter communities and that the needs of the homeless for shelter can hardly be denied, it is difficult to see how a court will ever find in favour of a landowner.

Even if the court does so, a further lengthy legal process is necessary before a private landowner may demolish the shacks. After six months he may not do so at all unless alternative land is made available to the squatters.

The measure has a deeply political motivation. As the

Government is only too well aware, squatters are usually the poorest of the poor, often migrants from the countryside who are desperately seeking a foothold near an urban area.

They are, in their millions, precisely the voters to whom the ANC successfully appealed in 1994 with promises of jobs and housing. Such pledges have not been fulfilled and many shanty-town dwellers, as well as the homeless and jobless, say they will not vote at all

next time. The ANC, painfully sensitive to such pressures, is seeking to find at least some palliative for those voters. The furious reaction from house-holders and farmers is that this is being done only by a surrender of property rights enshrined in the Constitution.

The proposed new law is so heavily weighted against farmers, businessmen and private householders who suffer squatter invasions that many fear the result will be that landowners will take the law into their own hands to prevent such incursions.

Apart from the loss of land involved, a squatter occupation invariably makes property values fall and crime rates soar.

Concern has been expressed that the Bill will frighten investors away from land-based businesses, such as game farms, tourist developments and agriculture. Many business and residential premises are protected by electrified fencing and farmers are armed. As several recent tragic incidents show, landowners are liable to shoot first and ask questions later.

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Raider

Red Kaunda's resignation party leader

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SCOP

Raiders sow terror on Sudan front line



Rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army soldiers survey a village destroyed by government troops near Aweng

THE vultures are still there, but of the men and cattle butchered in the bush little remains: a ribcage, some tattered clothing, a skull with tribal necklaces.

No one knows how many hundreds died when government militiamen swooped last month, cutting a swath through Dinka communities on the front line between Sudan's Arab North and African South. Southern rebels were killed, as were Arab soldiers, but most casualties were civilians. Cattle were stolen, huts torched, women and children abducted into slavery.

Thousands of Dinkas who fled the attack are living under makeshift shelters in the swamps, eating lily roots. Caught in a cycle of fighting, starvation, displacement and disease, they can only wait for aid agencies to save them.

All across war-torn southern Sudan, people are in peril; 900,000 is the latest United Nations estimate of those at risk from hunger. There is not a famine, the UN maintains, but there are pockets of extreme need. Any let-up in the aid effort could bring disaster.

David Orr reports from Aweng in Sudan's Bahr el Ghazal province on a people plagued by war and hunger

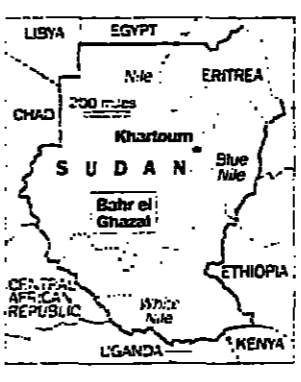
pipeline," says Brenda Barton of the UN World Food Programme, which can fly in 3,000 tonnes of food a month. "But we need to keep going at this rate until harvest time in September. That's presuming there will be a harvest."

Not all humanitarian organisations are so optimistic. In many areas, more than a third of children under five years are suffering from malnutrition. "We are at the door of a catastrophe," says Patrick Schmitt of Médecins Sans

Frontières/Belgium, which is running special feeding centres for children. "This is a serious situation, and it is going to get worse."

The other cause for concern is that, although seasonal rains have started, not enough seeds and tools are being delivered. Moreover, no amount of donor aid is going to halt the suffering so long as the war continues between the Government in the North and the Sudan People's Liberation Army rebels fighting for self-determination in the South.

Ravaged by 15 years of conflict, the people of the South live in a wilderness without roads, electricity or hospitals. In addition to attacks from government soldiers, they suffer the depredations of warlords like Kerubino Bol, a Dinka who defected to the government side and for years laid waste much of Bahr el Ghazal province. Not even his renewed alliance with the rebels this year brought solace.



Those who had fled his reign of terror returned to find nothing left.

The international community must ask itself whether it is prepared to foot the cost of another humanitarian crisis in Sudan next year, and perhaps subsequent years. This year the UN has appealed to donors to provide more than £40 million. Britain has pledged more than £2 million.

"Aid doesn't really solve the problems," says Dan Eiffe of Norwegian People's Aid. "The aid agencies are trying to keep the people alive until there is some resolution of the war, but we are just throwing good money after bad. The West, and particularly the European Union, has failed Sudan. At the end of the day, the only answer is probably a military one."

Mr Eiffe, among others, believes that the people of southern Sudan need both humanitarian and military aid. Until the Islamic fundamentalist regime in Khartoum abandons its holy war against the "infidel" South, images of starving children will continue to disturb the conscience of the West, leaving aid agencies to stagger from one emergency to the next.

WORLD SUMMARY

Colombia poll goes to run-off

Colombians will choose their President in a run-off vote on June 21 after polls on Sunday resulted in a near-tie between the two main parties (Gabriela Giménez writes). With nearly all the votes counted, Horacio Serpa, of the ruling Liberal Party, narrowly won with 44 per cent compared with 43 per cent for Andrés Pastrana, the Conservative and a former Mayor of Bogotá. Norberto Soto, an independent, gained 17 per cent.

Palestinians boost security

Jerusalem: Palestinian Authority security forces have stepped up training in the West Bank and Gaza Strip according to senior Israeli military officials. The move comes as the peace process in the region enters a new phase, with the start of the new year.

Cyberpolice to catch hackers

London: A new force to combat cyber-crimes will be set up by the British government. The force will be part of the National Crime Agency and will be responsible for investigating and prosecuting cyber-crimes.

Montenegro's reformers win

Podgorica: Montenegro's reformers have won a decisive victory in the recent elections. The reformist coalition led by Milo Đukanović has secured a majority in the parliament.

Ice dealers face death

London: Ice dealers in London are facing a crackdown on illegal trading. The authorities are targeting those who supply ice to the illegal gambling industry.

Mir fault may delay docking

London: The Mir space station may be delayed from docking with the International Space Station (ISS) due to a fault in the station's systems.

Freed Kaunda hints at resignation from party leadership

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

KENNETH KAUNDA, the former Zambian President, was freed after five months' detention and had charges against him of concealing knowledge of an attempted coup withdrawn yesterday.

He indicated that he might end his almost 40-year leadership of the opposition United National Independence Party (UNIP), a move that would bring immense relief to President Chiluba.

"You are discharged, so you are a free man," said Judge Japhet Banda after Bonaventure Mutale, the Attorney-General, told the High Court in Lusaka that he had decided not to prosecute. No reasons were given, but legal sources indicated it was because of lack of evidence.

"It's great, it's great," said Dr Kaunda, 74, as he waved to hundreds of cheering supporters who broke through a police cordon to welcome him. The only noticeable change in him since his arrest on Christmas Day was the white beard he has grown.

He told a press conference that he would soon call for an emergency UNIP congress "so that you, the owners of the party, can decide who your leadership should be". He would not be drawn on

whether he planned to step down from the party he has led since 1960.

Dr Kaunda has remained a powerful political force in Zambia since losing elections in 1991 to Mr Chiluba's Movement for Multiparty Democracy. He has united an otherwise feeble opposition that seriously eroded President Chiluba's support.

The release of Dr Kaunda was the start of marathon proceedings against 81 people charged with involvement in the bungled coup last October when a handful of military officers seized the national radio station after a drinking spree and declared that they had overthrown Mr Chiluba.

The subsequent arrests of military officers and opposition politicians drew international outrage against Mr Chiluba's Government when evidence emerged that they had been tortured in jail.

Dean Mungomba, a former international banking executive who heads the small Zambia Democratic Congress, is due to appear this week on charges of treason. Dr Kaunda was kept under house arrest for most of his detention, and was thus spared the appalling conditions of Lusaka's jails.

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Nazis purchased munitions 'with Swiss-held gold'

NAZI gold directed through the Swiss National Bank helped to pay other neutral countries for vital munitions that supplied the Third Reich in the final years of the Second World War, says a report published in the United States today.

The study, by government historians in Washington, shows the critical role that Nazi gold played in securing a vast share of Hitler's supplies from Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Turkey.

It concludes that Lisbon and Madrid provided Berlin with "almost 100 per cent" of the essential minerals needed to produce machine tools and armaments, especially armour-piercing shells.

While the report, leaked to *The New York Times*, stops short of implying that these countries helped to prolong the war, it determines that \$300 million in looted gold — worth approximately \$2.6 billion (£1.6 billion) today — was used to pay them for supplies.

The document states that "three quarters of this amount was transferred from Germany through the Swiss National Bank", the government-run central bank.

In another finding, the historians believe that the infamous Melmer account, named after its SS administrator, contained more than \$40 million, double the previous estimates.

The account contained gold bars made from smelted dental fillings, wedding rings and

Bank paid Spain and Portugal to supply Berlin, Tom Rhodes reports

other personal effects taken from Holocaust victims, and sometimes even swept from the ovens at death camps such as Auschwitz and Dachau.

The report claims that two big German banks, the Dresdner Bank and the Deutsche Bank, sold gold from the Melmer account in Turkey to supply Germany with hard currency.

Neither bank is involved in a class action suit brought against Swiss banks, and the focus for Jewish groups and others seeking compensation remains the "neutral" bankers of Switzerland.

Indeed, coming less than a week after an independent Swiss government commission established that the Swiss National Bank knowingly received looted gold from the Reichsbank, the latest report has provoked intense debate even before its official publication.

Those engaged for more than two years in legal battles with the Swiss Government believe that the US State Department, which has overseen the study, may be at-

tempting to share the burden of guilt for dealing in Nazi gold to peripheral countries beyond Switzerland.

Nonetheless, the World Jewish Congress said the report's conclusions appeared again to find serious fault with the Swiss. "We are concerned because Swiss officials have repeatedly told us that the upcoming report was designed to take pressure off them," said Elan Steinberg, a top executive with the body in New York. "The irony is that the report would seem to assess greater financial responsibility on Switzerland than was first thought."

The study reportedly praises the Swiss Government for its efforts in confronting history over the past year. In the final version, however, the word "courageous" has been deleted from the introduction by Stuart Eizenstat, the Under-Secretary for Economic Affairs.

The Washington report is likely to increase the potential liability of the Swiss National Bank in the dispute over compensation for survivors. Under postwar agreements, it was the countries that first received stolen assets from Nazi Germany which were made financially responsible for their return.

The independent commission of Swiss experts concluded last week that the Swiss National Bank bought gold worth more than \$2.5 billion at today's prices and turned a blind eye to its origins.



The dazzling curves of the Bilbao Guggenheim's titanium roof that tempted two tourists

Britons foiled in museum roof raid

FROM GILES TREMLETT IN MADRID

TWO British tourists were arrested in the northern Spanish city of Bilbao after trying to steal part of the dazzling titanium roof that covers one of Europe's most spectacular new museums, the Bilbao Guggenheim.

Guards monitoring the museum's security cameras watched in amazement as the two 22-year-olds tried to pull a sheet of metal off the shiny curved roof in the early hours of Sunday. The would-be thieves had managed to tear one of the sheets half off the building when the guards reached them.

"They were caught red-handed," a police spokesman said. He refused to name the pair, who were arrested but released on bail.

Staff at the museum, designed by the American architect Frank Gehry, were astonished. "We hope this is not something that will catch on," one said. "There are places where the titanium comes right down to street level."

The Bilbao Guggenheim was opened last October to rapturous reviews from architecture critics. The long, glittering, curved roof is one of the most eye-catching elements of a €65 million building that has delighted the people of Bilbao and has placed Spain's third biggest city on the tourist map. King Juan Carlos proudly proclaimed it to be "the best building of the 20th century".

About 60 tons of reflective, undulating rooftops. A total of 33,000 sheets of the metal were needed.

Even the premium-quality titanium used in buildings and aircraft is not a high-value metal, said Peter Redfern, a titanium expert at Lippmann Walton & Co, a special metal trader. The new sheeting would have cost around £15 a kilo, but second-hand its value would drop to around 60p a kilo.

Einstein love letters to Soviet spy for sale

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

AN EXTRAORDINARY cache of love letters, written by Albert Einstein to a Soviet spy with whom he had a passionate affair, will be auctioned at Sotheby's here on June 26.

The nine letters are addressed to Margarita Konenkova, a Russian émigrée who lived in New York and was 15 years younger than Einstein. Although her role as a spy has been documented in a 1995 book, *Special Tasks*, it was not

known previously that she had had an affair with the great scientist. There is no indication in the correspondence, estimated to fetch about \$350,000 (£215,000), that Einstein knew that she was a Soviet spy.

The two were introduced to each other in 1935 by Einstein's step-daughter, Margot, but it is not clear when their relationship began. The letters were written in 1945 and 1946, after Mrs Konenkova had returned to Moscow with her husband, the sculptor Sergei Konenkov, at the end of the Second World War. Einstein was then 66.

Written in stylish German, and preserved in their fading aquamarine envelopes, the letters are addressed to Mrs Konenkova's Moscow home. They are sprinkled with words from their intimate vocabulary. "Almar", a portmanteau of Einstein's invention, was a pet name devised by joining Albert and Margarita. The "nest" was his home in Princeton. In a letter of November 27, 1945, he says: "Just now I washed my head by myself, but not with the greatest success: I am not as careful as you are. And meanwhile, everything here reminds me of you."

Record swim foils sharks

Miami: Susie Maroney, 23, the Australian marathon swimmer, yesterday set an unofficial world record for distance swimming at sea when she endured a 30-hour, 123-mile crossing of the shark-infested Caribbean waters separating Mexico and Cuba (David Adams writes). Maroney was protected by a shark-proof cage during her swim to Cuba.

Clinton abandons privilege claim

Washington: The White House yesterday dropped its claim to the protection of executive privilege, allowing the independent prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, to bring President Clinton's closest aides back in front of the grand jury (Bronwen Maddox writes). Mr Clinton told the Supreme Court yesterday afternoon that he would not contest a lower court's rejection of his claim of executive privilege, the legal shield surrounded by

controversy since Richard Nixon wielded it as President to frustrate the Watergate investigators.

The White House move, which was seen as a manoeuvre to avoid a rejection by the Supreme Court, marks a significant victory for Mr Starr. He is now free to interrogate two top aides — Bruce Lindsay, a lawyer who was one of Mr Clinton's closest advisers and friends, and Sidney Blumenthal, a strategist.

about the sex-and-perjury allegations surrounding the President's relationship with Monica Lewinsky, the former trainee.

Congressional Republicans hope that the move could smooth the way for Mr Starr to deliver a report on the scandal before the crucial mid-term elections in November. Mr Starr's team believes there is no constitutional reason why it cannot indict Mr Clinton while he is in office.

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'I felt so mistreated by male colleagues that I just had to resign'

Does a male bias operate in our medical profession? Rachel Campbell-Johnston reports

Women have been on the British medical register for more than 100 years. So why, when we meet a consultant, are we usually confronted by some bearded, bespectacled Sir Lancelot Spratt? For some 15 years, half of our medical students have been female. They should be flooding into top hospital posts by now. Yet less than 20 per cent of consultants are female.

So what happens to all those bright young women who qualify? This is the question that Janey Huber, a surgeon, has been asking herself. Dissecting statistics with the precision one might expect from an ophthalmic specialist, she comes up with figures that are only too clear.

Some NHS trusts employ women in as few as 9 per cent of their consultancy posts. Even in specialities where women most commonly work — pathology, paediatrics and psychiatry — imbalances are often huge. When it comes to surgery — still the front line as far as women are con-

cerned — figures can be as extreme as 42 to one. Huber cites the example of a colleague, a general practitioner whose trust did not have a female obstetrician. This seems unreasonable since all obstetric patients are women. Many of them would feel uncomfortable being examined by a man, even in non-sexual areas.

"If I was going to have a sigmoidoscope put up my rectum I would want to see a female consultant," says Huber. Her arguments raise important questions not only about British medical culture but about the patients it serves.

I meet Huber on the steps of New Hall College, Cambridge. Practising as a surgeon, she felt so mistreated by male colleagues that she gave up and resigned.

"I find the story very painful to tell," Huber admits before starting with a summary of her career. She was a medical student at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, and went on to qualify



A cut above the rest? Despite half of all medical students being female, only 20 per cent of consultants are women

and practise as an eye surgeon. After marrying, she followed her husband abroad. This meant that by the time she returned to Cambridge in 1992 — pregnant and with two children — she had been out of the profession for five years.

Eighteen weeks after her third child was born — some doctors take as little as six weeks maternity leave — Huber went back to part-time work at Addenbrooke's under a flexible training scheme specifically designed for women like her.

But as a registrar and then senior registrar she encountered problems. A strange change in attitude had taken place. When last she worked there she had been young,

attractive, unattached. She had been "flavour of the month". But returning she was in a rather different situation: "married, a mother, with outside commitments". The only woman in the training ranks, she found herself about as welcome as a germ in an operating room.

"I determined to do everything possible to be beyond censure," says Huber. "I employed a full-time nanny — which consumed most of my income — so that I would never be caught short without childcare. I made sure I was there for all the early morning and late evening ward rounds. I came in for departmental meetings, even if they fell on a day when I had no other duties." And yet, despite her commitment, she found herself increasingly ostracised. "I felt like a ghost, as if I had no

presence, as if I wasn't there. I was never told what was going on. I wasn't included in discussions on interesting patients. I was just tolerated and ignored. It was as if my identity was being subtly eroded."

She struggled on until she found herself in a situation where she felt she had to say "no". She refused to take on some extra work because it couldn't be fitted into the regular rota that a woman with children prefers. "I was happy to do the work," she explains, "but I need a fixed schedule and no one was prepared to help

me to find an imaginative solution." Her unhappiness turned to anger when her refusal was recorded by a hostile male consultant as non-cooperation.

She took the matter to higher authorities, who recommended that she shouldn't

make a fuss. "From then on I began to feel that it was no longer worth the struggle. I felt too angry, too upset, too frustrated to go on. Nobody was prepared to meet me halfway."

Finally, after three years, Huber resigned and she has not worked since. No one at Addenbrooke's was available for comment yesterday.

She has not worked since. Do you think you will ever work again? I ask. Unexpected tears well up in her eyes. "No," she answers quietly. "Not at the level I was at."



Dr Janey Huber fears that she will never regain her position

such pressure. The British Medical Association runs a committee to monitor the career progress of doctors. The Good Medical Practice Guide of the General Medical Council has an equal opportunities policy clearly in place. To date, a spokesman said, it has never received a complaint specifically on grounds of sexual discrimination, perhaps because such charges are difficult to prove. They would have to be dealt with at the more detailed level of an industrial tribunal.

Meanwhile, the Opportunity 2000 initiative has set goals for hospitals to increase the percentage of women on their staffs. Some, Oxford's John Radcliffe, for example, which had a female Dean, has achieved its targets.

In an overstretched NHS, far more have neither the time nor the resources to pursue those targets as fully as they might like. There should be financial incentives to encourage NHS trusts to recruit more women, Huber suggests, and some sort of penalty for non-compliance.

Flexible part-time training schemes should be encouraged, says Huber. "Even men can benefit from them. I know of two who use such schemes to carry on their rugby careers, and one who uses it for pursuing a political life. That's excellent. We want politicians who understand the NHS. We want patients to have real people attending to them, not these exhausted

drudgers who are burnt out." Medics who have children should be actively encouraged. "From the moment a female student enters the profession she is in a male environment," says Huber. "She is forced into a competitive, desensitised masculine role. And yet when you have a child you are the one with your feet in the stirrups. You are wretched and lonely in hospital, wondering why there is no one there to help. And it's a salutary experience. It teaches you empathy."

In the end, she believes, it is the patients who will suffer if the system continues as it is: overworked, overpressured, over-male. The cost will not simply be that of the loss of the taxpayers' investment — it takes around £200,000 to qualify as a doctor. The cost will be a loss of choice. Addenbrooke's, for example, has recently appointed two male breast surgeons at consultancy level, which means that from now until their retirement — perhaps 25 years — no woman with breast cancer in Cambridge will be able to consult a female surgeon.

It is the patients as much as the medics who must work to influence change. Under the current Government, GPs contract with NHS trusts for the care of their patients. This puts them in a powerful position. If GPs serve female patients who want to see female consultants, they can choose trusts that have women available. This means that we, as patients, should not be afraid to ask.

'In the end it is the patients who must influence change'

The asthma victims saved by steroids

Medical folk memory lasts for centuries, and the disasters that accompanied the introduction of corticosteroids in the 1950s are still remembered. Now, the stories of patients who recovered because of the availability of steroids are forgotten, whereas those who, because of their side-effects, perished or suffered damage are recorded in history.

It is easy to overlook how often steroids have saved lives: the lives, for instance, of children with asthma, of young adults with renal or bowel disease, or those of people with lupus and its allied conditions. It is a diminishing band of doctors who can remember how often patients died before steroids were accessible, whereas all doctors have treated patients with steroid side-effects.

Medicine is a question of balancing risks. Skill as a doctor is not measured only in terms of being a good listener and diagnostician, but also in

being able to give the patient guidance as to the best treatment after weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of every course of action.

Having contrasted the risks of doing without it, it may finally fall to the by now well-informed patient to make the final decision.

The Committee on Safety of Medicines and the Medical Control Agency have written to all doctors recently about the problems that can arise from the prescription of corticosteroid drugs. As these two bodies are concerned with advising doctors of the dangers of drugs, and not of their advantages, it is very easy for the lay press to interpret their occasional papers in frightening terms.

The uninitiated might therefore not realise that thousands of people owe their continuing wellbeing, and even their lives, to steroids.

Pharmaceutical products that are effective will usually have side-effects. In some

cases, these will rather surprisingly, be beneficial. For instance, Viagra, the potency pill, was designed to treat angina. Then a doctor discovered that it affected the circulation in other parts of the body as well as the heart. More often, regrettably, side-effects are adverse.

MEDICINE CHEST

DR THOMAS STUTTFORD

The Government advises that corticosteroids should be prescribed for the shortest length of time possible, and at the lowest dose necessary to achieve the clinical result. Rapid withdrawal of corticosteroid drugs, if they have been taken for more than three weeks, can cause serious problems. The speed of the reduction, and its manner, is

dependent on the disease being treated, and the likelihood of a recurrence when steroid levels are reduced.

The three-week rule does not always apply. Patients who have had repeated short courses of steroids may need to be gradually weaned off the pills. When a short course is prescribed within a year of long-term therapy, there may also be trouble, as there may be if more than the equivalent of 40mg daily of Prednisolone has been taken.

Patients should always take their steroid doses in the morning, as in this way their own natural steroid-producing glands are not suppressed to the same extent.

If patients have been having regular corticosteroid therapy, their resistance to physical stress, whether injury, surgery, or infection, is reduced, and they may need additional steroid therapy for a time.

Patients must be warned that if they become unwell, they should see their doctors

straight away. The same rules of keeping the dose as low as possible apply to inhaled and sniffed corticosteroids, the anti-asthma inhalers, and the anti-hay fever nasal sprays, whether taken by mouth or injected.

The death rate has been falling now that steroids are more readily used in asthma treatment. However, there is concern that even inhalers may cause gross retardation in children, as well as in adults, some loss of bone density, and an increased incidence of cataracts and glaucoma.

Significantly, the Government's final line on the safety of inhaled steroids is: "The recognition that systemic side-effects may occur, and that the lowest effective dose should be used, does not alter the favourable risk pattern profile of these medicines."

In layman's terms, it may be expressed thus: that it is better for a few to grow up slightly shorter than for many to die of asthma attacks.



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Why I decided to get married

After nearly 13 years together, Julie Walters and her partner Grant Roffey have finally married, secretly in New York. Interview by Moira Petty

Julie Walters is an icon of ordinariness in a world of hyperbole. The hushed reverence of publicists and agents towards their "star" is in stark contrast to the woman with the crumpled, lived-in appeal and laughing eyes who sits, sweltering, in a Soho film company office.

Her dress is caramel-coloured, the kind of chic neutral that continental actresses seem to carry off so well. But Julie has added her own sartorial spin. "Do you mind if I stretch my legs?" she asks, propping them up on a low table and revealing pale, hirsute limbs emerging from ankle boots. "Sorry, I've got hairy legs," she confides in a still discernible Birmingham accent. "I couldn't find any tights this morning."

It is immensely cheering that the 48-year-old actress who formed a memorable partnership with Victoria Wood, won an Oscar for *Educating Rita*, mesmerised in Alan Bleasdale's *Jake's Progress* for Channel 4, and who, financially, need never work again, hasn't got round to tidying her ho-ho-drawers.

She professes neither paragon physique nor agonised analysis of her acting for your inspection. And she rubbishes actorish protocol: "Oh, we don't have to talk about my work. Not unless you want to."

But she is patient, generous and humorous, even when recounting the defining event of her life: her only daughter Maisie's long struggle back to health after she had lymphoblastic leukaemia diagnosed as a toddler. Through those years, she and her partner, Grant Roffey, the man seven years her junior who famously offered to mend her washing machine and never went home, have somehow maintained their equilibrium.

They were one of showbusiness's most prominent unmarried couples, with Julie often proclaiming that formalising their relationship has never been important to her. But she has a surprise revelation. Last year, after living together since 1985, she and Grant married secretly during a trip to New York to celebrate his 40th birthday. "We felt we ought to for practical reasons," says Julie. "If one of us was to die, things would be more complicated if we were unmarried. I was worried that if I died, the inheritance tax would be such that Grant and Maisie would have to sell up and move. The funny thing is that although we did it for this reason, and perhaps because we did it for this reason, it turned into something much more romantic."

Maisie, now ten, stayed at home with relatives but was told what was happening before her parents left for the US. "She said, 'A wedding? Oh, all right.' She wasn't worried about not being a bridesmaid as she has never been into frilly dresses. "At one point we did think 'what are we doing? We'd been together happily for nearly 13 years. We were worried about getting married might be a bad omen for our relationship. You hear about people who live together for ages and then split up when they marry. But it was lovely. We stayed at the Four Seasons hotel and did all the

touristy things, and travelled around on the subway. We went to City Hall and filled in the papers and the next day we went back for the ceremony.

"It was just the two of us. We asked a couple from Seattle who were there to witness someone else's wedding if they would be our witnesses. When the registrar asked if we had rings, we said no, because we hadn't bought any. But now I wear a very special one. When we got back, Grant's mother gave me her mother's wedding ring."

It is only in retrospect that Julie realises that when she and Grant moved in together, after meeting in a London wine bar, they didn't know each other very well. Then, in 1990, when they were in Toronto, where Julie was filming *Stepping Out* with Liza Minnelli, two-and-a-half-year-old Maisie fell ill. Julie, who became a nurse for a while to please her mother before turning to acting, recognised some of the symptoms. "I said, not seriously, 'it looks like leukaemia'. At the very

thought 'why me?' although the doctors had said I'd think that."

During the early stages of treatment, Maisie had a blood transfusion. "Grant said 'cover the blood up. I don't like it,'" recalls Julie. "Little did he know that he'd be up to his neck in blood for years. Maisie had a lumbar puncture into her spinal column without anaesthetic, and six more with anaesthetic. A bone marrow sample was taken out, with only a local anaesthetic. That was one of the worst times. Grant held her while I stood outside the door, listening to her screaming.

There were so many times when I heard this tiny voice wailing, 'Daddy, help me.' I knew she was in pain but I had to tell myself that it was for a good reason.

"When she was four she had a relapse, and that was much worse than the initial diagnosis. They allow a limit of ten leukaemic cells and she had 11. Doctors felt they couldn't ignore it, so she had to go through all the treatment again. Once it's come back, you feel there's much less chance."

Julie was keen never to spoil Maisie: "We never thought in terms of 'this might be her last Christmas'. At the Marsden, they said that you don't want a child cured of leukaemia but with terminal braininess. She once asked if it was being spoilt to ask for a new hairband.

"She is now clear but she has loads of friends who did die. Once, in a hospital waiting room when I was at the end of my tether, she asked about a friend who had died. Where had she gone? Had her Mum and Dad gone with her?"

"When she was three, I overheard her chatting with some friends: 'I've had a cold, a rash, leukaemia', she said, without differentiating. Her illness became part of her life. It's only recently that she has realised she might have died. The other day she said: 'It was serious, wasn't it?'"



Julie and Grant in 1988, after Maisie's birth

beginning, when it was diagnosed, I said to Grant that it could be the best thing that's happened to us.

"I know that sounds odd, but what I meant was that it would strengthen us and open up new ways of looking at things. Sometimes a crisis throws things into sharp focus. Often it splits people up. We decided there and then to talk it out. Gradually we worked out the tools we needed to cope."

Living in the shadow of death stabilised their relationship, which earlier had been marked by getting-to-know-you rows. Julie discovered a metaphysical dimension in herself. "I was lying in bed at the Marsden next to Maisie and a young boy in the next room was dying. I heard him go, as his breathing changed, with his mother shouting 'Don't take him!'"

"I never thought I would experience such death. It touched every aspect of me. I found a kind of spirituality because the prospect of losing a child leaves so many people in black, angry cul-de-sacs. Somehow we had to make sense of it. I felt that life was a series of lessons.

"I did go through a phase of thinking I'd been punished for having it so good — the career, the child — and that life had evened things out for me. But I never ever

Grant stayed at home to look after Maisie while Julie pursued her career. They hired a nanny but soon found that Maisie only wanted to be with her Daddy, sometimes in preference to her mother. "She would say: 'Not you Mummy, Daddy will do it.' Once she said that she had a really good idea. As I liked her bedroom so much, I could sleep there and she would sleep with Daddy. Talk about the odd couple."

They made a conscious decision not to have a second child. "Grant didn't feel he could go through it all again and I remember asking: 'How do you love a second baby?' I do feel I must create a family atmosphere for her. She is very close to her cousins and looks like them. They are all blond and Swedish-looking. I'm going to talk to my nephews and ask them to be there for her when she needs them. It's hard for only children. She will feel a responsibility for us."

Julie is keen to give Maisie her independence and, although it will be painful for us, is considering Maisie's request to transfer, in September, to a weekly boarding school only 20 minutes' drive from their 70-acre Sussex farm.

Maisie likes to cycle down the track from their home, which is surrounded by forest, to visit



Having it all: the consummate comedy actress at 48, Julie Walters has achieved both professional acclaim and a fulfilling home life

friends at nearby houses. "My heart is in my mouth watching her go," says Julie. Since Julie tripped on a rabbit hole recently, she has equipped the whole family with walkie-talkies. "If I'd been badly injured, no one would have known where I was. Mobile phones don't work in the woodland. As Maisie's cycling along, she gives me a running commentary.

Julie fondly mimics the little girl trying so hard to be grown-up. "She brought us tea in bed the other day. She said: 'It's so lovely to have a skill, isn't it?'"

Grant farms organically on their land — "he learnt everything from

The Archers," says Julie, laughing — and takes their livestock, including pigs, to a humane abattoir. "After seeing the film *Babe*, Maisie said: 'Daddy, I really need to speak to you.' She drew these posters entitled My Father, The Pig Killer, with Grant, all bloody, chopping up a pig. I think it was a mistake to give the animals names. Over Sunday lunch we'd be saying: 'Is this Clover? But they do lead a fabulous natural life.'

Not surprisingly, Julie is increasingly reluctant to leave her rural idyll. She turns down far more work than she accepts. While she acknowledges that there are fewer

roles for women of her age, she thinks that the increasing number of women in the professions will change the perception of how women should be portrayed on screen.

Her latest role, in the film *Girls' Night*, is close to her heart. Scripted by the *Band of Gold* writer Kay Mellor, it tells of the bingo win and breast cancer diagnosis that come in quick and ironic succession to factory worker Dawn, played by Brenda Blethyn. Julie plays her less-than-charitable friend Jackie, whose views are changed in a redemptive sequence of events.

"It is a way of getting across the message about breast cancer," says Julie. "One of the things I liked was that I was playing the less likeable character. She accuses her sick friend of being selfish. It gave me a chance to get my nasty side out. "It says a lot about friendship between women and loyalty. What have they got but their friendships? All the men in the film are inept. I think that's a fairly accurate reflection of life. "Except," adds the new Mrs Roffey hastily, "for Grant. He's wonderful. Even if I do tell him that now I can divorce him."

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Trouble in consumer paradise as the Flab Four cross the pond

Two months after the arrival of the Teletubbies on American television, talking versions of Tinky Winky, Dipsy, Laa and Po have just gone on sale in a handful of toy chains around the country.

The hype is huge. Manhattan's most prestigious (and pricey) toyshop, FAO Schwarz, heralded the launch with a full-page colour advertisement in *The New York Times*. It showed a tot snuggling up with a set of the Flab Four. "Eh-Oh!" called Laa-Laa from the child's lap. "Big Hug!" waved Tinky Winky.

Media pundits would prefer him to have been trilling "Big Business". A media critic for *The New York Times* accused the merchandisers of "tapping into a profit line, unrestrained by ambivalence over the effects of anything that sells". A Los Angeles radio station, KCRW, devoted almost a full hour to a panel discussion about whether America's publicity funded TV station, PBS, had "sold out" by airing a children's programme with obvious commercial spin-offs.

America's mothers and child-minders, however, don't agree. "Oh please," says Kathleen Morrison, a public health consultant in San Francisco and mother of Eli, six, "The show is pretty spacey, but aged 20 months, you're talking about a country where every other show has people with big breasts or shooting guns at one another."

Many mothers find it comical that critics are panning the BBC import while Disney and other Hollywood entertainment companies have almost unbridled links to their daily lives, including free toys with McDonald's children's

Morrison says. "One good thing about it is that it's not too busy. There's too much going on in *Sesame Street* for small kids to handle."

Parents who have watched the show generally agree that the American media critics are woefully out of touch with the demands of day-to-day parenting. Julie Hinch, a writer who lives outside Boston, says: "I'm just thrilled that there's a show that's so innocent and so sweet for my daughter, Emma, to watch."

For many of the show's detractors, the Teletubbies are a cultural scapegoat. So overwrought are they about the widely perceived evil of rampant consumerism in modern American society that they have laid into the waddling foursome with force.

David Walsh, president of the National Institute on Media and the Family, is concerned about the mesmerising quality of the Tubbies since the programme entices children to seek stimulation from TV "at an even earlier age than they already are". Meanwhile, "hundreds" of parents apparently queued at FAO Schwarz, vying with one another to buy one of the 200 "specially numbered" Teletubbies signed by Kenn Viselman, the entrepreneur whose itty bitty Entertainment Company has the rights to sell Teletubbies merchandise in the US.

Of course, these are early days. Mr Viselman has all but asked for trouble. If Teletubbies are not "the most important toys at Christmas" this year, he says, then "something desperately wrong will have happened", especially after "more advance press than *Titanic*".



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Zero-tolerant but letting it all hang out

Derwent May visits New York to see the 'politics of fusion' in action

There is a cartoon in the current issue of *The New Yorker* showing a gallows with a ladder going up to the scaffold. By the side of the scaffold there is also a ramp — with a disabled wheelchair sign on it.

The underlying moral of the cartoon is, of course, wholly liberal and anti-capital punishment. But the manner of it is about as politically incorrect as you can get: you do not make jokes about the disabled. In fact, I doubt if that cartoon would appear in an English magazine.

But the United States is changing again, and I think for the better. The liberals are becoming less sentimental — while, conversely, the conservatives are softening. One could see that illustrated very vividly in the closing days of last month on the streets of New York.

The cab drivers are up in arms because Rudolph Giuliani, the New York Mayor, taking his usual disciplinary stance on civic matters, has greatly increased the penalties for traffic offences — and those notoriously wild cabbies see the prospect of their week's earnings vanishing at the whim of some overscrupulous cop. So they organised a demonstration against the mayor, and a strike.

Both protests were only fitfully supported — but the mayor took the war dramatically into the drivers' own camp. He had a great squad of policemen stopping every cab from entering Manhattan unless it had a passenger in it. So Fifth Avenue and Broadway were almost without their yellow splashes that day — and it was the drivers who wanted to get into Manhattan to work, rather than those who were observing the strike, who suffered. Mr Giuliani did not care.

Yet that week also saw the introduction of a whole set of popular and liberal reforms in New York. The city is now leading the nation in the introduction of small financial benefits to its citizens. The main one last month was, like the mayor's severity over the cabs, about the business of getting around in New York.

There is a new Metrocard which, for the first time, enables the purchaser to transfer freely between the subway and the very sleek buses that now run up and down the main avenues, and also gives the holder 11 trips for the price of ten — so, effectively, one free trip for a five-day commuter each week. The comparison made by the director of New York University's urban research centre — "It's like the coffee shops where you get the 11th cup of coffee free" — might seem to reflect rather bizarre drinking habits, but one sees the point. There are also free rides now on the Staten Island ferry.

At the same time, a state takeover of the Long Island Lighting Company — a far from conservative measure — will soon see customers getting a 20 per cent reduction in their electricity bills, while that irritating little 4 per cent state

tax that is added on to practically everything you buy, without being shown on the price card, will come to an end next year on all items that cost less than \$110. After the conservative backlash that brought to power Mr Giuliani, and George Pataki, his fellow Republican state Governor, these instantly tangible benefits for poorer New Yorkers are exactly what the city wants.

Most remarkable of all, perhaps, the formidable Mayor Giuliani has decided that he will accord the same civic rights and benefits to established homosexual couples, and other pairs living together, that traditionally married couples already have. This has set the Roman Catholic Church in a great ferment.

All this seems to bear out what Mark Lilla, an up-and-coming lecturer in politics at New York University, has been saying about American politics in general. He believes that the great liberal and cultural revolution of the 1960s, and the reaction against it under President Reagan, are now sitting very comfortably together. What he sees taking place in America is "the politics of fusion".

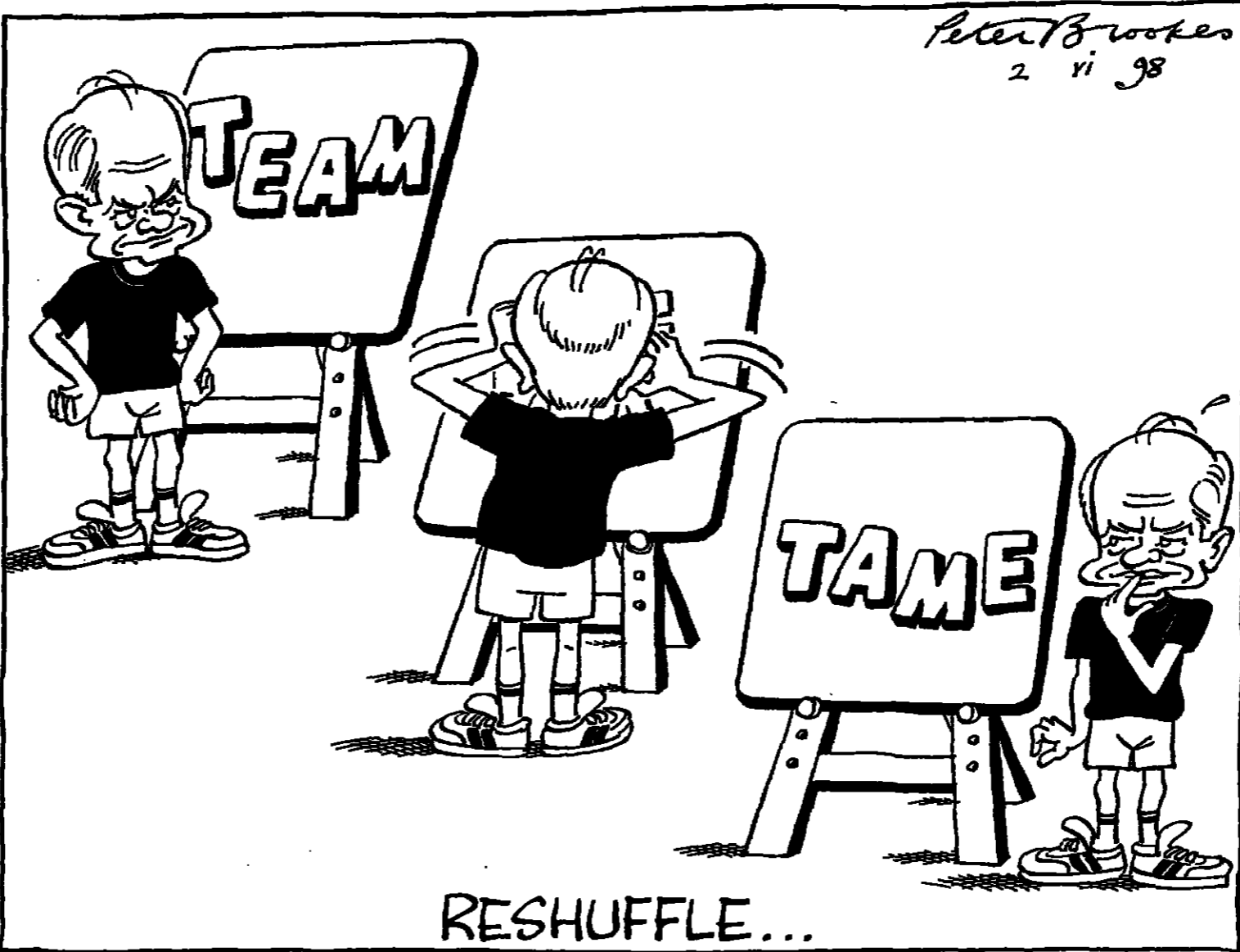
In a recent article in the *New York Review of Books* he says that "Americans see no contradiction in holding down day jobs in the unfettered global marketplace — the Reaganite dream, the Left nightmare — and spending weekends in a moribund and cultural universe shaped by the Sixties". He even portrays President Clinton as a clear example of this: "Clinton's Sixties morals and Eighties politics do not seem contradictory to the majority of the American public that supports him."

The 1960s and the 1980s sit comfortably together

Mr Lilla does not think the compromise can last — yet I wonder if it is not a return to a way of life and thinking that has always been characteristic of large numbers of ordinary Americans. There is something tough and salty, yet at the same time kind and sensitive, in much American song and talk, for example.

I think of the hard-headed lyricism of Cole Porter and of Rodgers and Hart — or even of Frank Sinatra's best songs. (Another *New Yorker* cartoon had an angel on a cloud saying to another "That's the first time I've heard *My Way* on the harp".) But I also think of the burly white taxi driver I was talking to in *Houston* last week, who was praising to me the amazing medical achievements of the University of Texas. "If you got cancer, and you got money, sure thing you'll end up in *Houston*," he observed. Or I think of a highly qualified black nurse I heard talking to a man in Galveston, telling him she was divorced now. "I'm single, but ready to mingle," she said, laughing. Hard-headed, yes, but eloquent too. Those are the voices of the old — and perhaps again the new — United States.

Anatole Kaletsky is away.



Get a move on, Ginger

The errant Spice Girl is right: who wants to hang out with the same gang for life?

All that moveth doth in Change delight. The poet Spenser says so, but he could not have foreseen the dreadful cataclysm of Geri leaving the Spice Girls, could he? Let alone the solemn and terrible news that Gazza is out of the England squad. Denied access to modern media, poor old Spenser had to draw his conclusions about change from watching caterpillars, or clouds, or courtiers dying of the pox. Perhaps in a Christian era it was easier to accept that turned out all right when Frank Sinatra left the Tommy Dorsey Band and Diana Ross ditched the Supremes, but thunders at poor Geri: "Remember the Walker Brothers. Scott Walker faded instantly. Graham Nash left the Hollies. Marisa sank without trace without the Vandellas. Mama Cass fell into the ultimate obscurity."

Stop, stop! Spare us these horrors! Sensitive readers may have only just got over losing the Vandellas, whoever they were. Mr Connolly's message to Geri Halliwell, echoed elsewhere, is plain. Always keep tight hold of Nurse, for fear of finding something worse. If you fall off the Spice rack, you will shatter. Never change, never develop, never test your limits, never take a risk. Be a limpet, not a fish. Suppress your dreams, arrest your development, hang on to the old.

It is a characteristically modern message to all who lead a public life. Any established actor, writer, singer, broadcaster or politician who tries to evolve or get out is savaged; anybody who goes on doing the same thing reaches a plateau above criticism. The Beatles' split is still held up as evidence of personality defects in John Lennon, whereas when Cliff Richard sings *Congratulations* yet again (aagh!) he is Good Old Cliff. When Mick Jagger rocks his wrinkles round the stage we are supposed to applaud his survival, rather than rearing back in disgust and shouting "Grow up! We love Barbara Cartland because she is a stayer, a phenomenon, still knocking out the same pink trash romances at the same headlong rate. It is terribly bad form to point out that there is something worrying about a woman nearing 100 with an ingénue rindset.

share in the American tour and the souvenir phonocards, dolls, crisps, and cans of pop. They speak of her "ego" in disparaging terms and forecast that she will fail alone.

Ray Connolly, the grave grey-haired historian of pop, led the doomsayers. He unwillingly allows that it turned out all right when Frank Sinatra left the Tommy Dorsey Band and Diana Ross ditched the Supremes, but thunders at poor Geri: "Remember the Walker Brothers. Scott Walker faded instantly. Graham Nash left the Hollies. Marisa sank without trace without the Vandellas. Mama Cass fell into the ultimate obscurity."

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If novelists change their genre, painters their medium, or broadcasters leave their accustomed seat, heads are shaken. Seventeen years on, I still get accosted by people accusingly asking why I left *Today*. Even poor Glenn Hoddle was being castigated by fans on radio phone-ins yesterday just for dropping Paul Gascoigne. Never mind that Gazza is a stout, dissipated smoker, the squad will "not be the same" without him. For some fans, not being the same is far worse than just not winning.

The same rule applies in politics. Those who change their minds after careful thought, like Alan Howarth — who left the Tories for Labour — or the founders of the SDP, or new Labour, are considered unstable and insincere. Those who stoutly refuse ever to learn a new name become cuddly folk

figures, even to their enemies (especially if they can achieve self-parody like Tony Benn or Alan Clark). Or among the journalists, think of any of the beloved *foxyes* of the Right, or the wrinkled *soyons-huitiards* of the Left. They may be boring, they may be predictable, but by God they're familiar and we honour them.

British popular culture specialises in the creation of living fossils. Think of Jimmy Young, chirping the same greeting for forty years (although when the show first changed to include interviews in the '70s, widespread alarm was quelled only when an undertaking was made to keep Raymond and the daily recipe). Think of our national dread of facing any great public event without a Dimbleby, and of the eerie way that John Humphrys came to sound exactly like Brian Redhead (even Brian said that he couldn't tell them apart on tape). Or read — as I do most weeks, for programme research — any sheaf of profiles of a long-lived public figure. Note the way that their old identities are dragged down the years after them — like Miss Havisham's musty train ("Former world's most yachtswoman Clare Francis... screenwriter Peter Howitt

who made his name in *Bread*... Ballykissangel writer Kieran Prendiville, who in the early 1970s worked on *Thurs Life*). Any attempt by the subject to say "I was young then and it was only for two years" is met with contempt. You are what you were, and ever will be. Whereas those who stifle their boredom and do the same act for forty years are *Grand Old Troopers*.

So good luck, Geri Ginger-Spice. Get out there, flourish or fail, and teach all those impressionable little girls that life is for living, that vitality means change, and that nobody hangs out with the same four people for life. You may become a superstar, you may bomb, you may get sued shirshless by the other Spice's lawyers, you may put your £13 million in a chain of dry-cleaners and become a nun. Who knows? The main thing is to move on when the inner voice says that you must. *Since tis Nature's law to change, Constancy alone is strange*.

Even if change is forced upon you, go with the flow. Nothing is more pathetic than the man who is made redundant and refuses to retrain because "I'm a shipyard welder, always will be" or to take a service job because "I'm an executive". Few things cause more unhappiness and stress than parents — of either sex — who think that life and career can be exactly the same when they have babies. It won't. You can't swim in the same river twice.

Perhaps it is only at the top of the cycle that we cling on too hard. People at the bottom really see the joy of moving on. Recently I sat with a man at the end of a prison sentence: his life ruined, his home gone, his reputation disgraced, his employment prospects grim. Looking ahead nervously to the day of release, the only notion that cheered him up was of regarding life as one of those rambling 18th-century novels. You know the sort: "Found on a doorstep — thrown into workhouse — prenticed to a tanner — seduced squire's daughter — transported to Colonies — made fortune — shipwrecked — lost a leg and an eye — made king of savage island — returned with bag of diamonds — became Member of Parliament — married duchess..." etc.

A chequered career, flown by the seat of the pants, is the only kind worth having. Good luck, Ginger.

Too tied in red tape to prosecute

John Morris says the CPS has failed to deliver justice

The Crown Prosecution Service will now have a clear and sensible direction, after the publication yesterday of the report by Sir Iain Glidewell, it will become, in the report's words, "a lively, successful and esteemed part of the criminal justice system". That is a clear goal. It can be achieved.

For the CPS, the key questions are how the reform is to be brought about and how long it will take. The first steps towards decentralisation and a change of culture have already been taken: the CPS's 13-area structure will give way to 42 areas corresponding with police force areas (the Metropolitan Police and City of London counting as one for this purpose). This should result in much closer working relationships with the police while continuing the important separation of prosecution from investigation. Each area will be headed by a Chief Crown Prosecutor readily recognisable to the public — a person of stature with substantial autonomy. The selection process will be taken forward by the new Director of Public Prosecutions once in post.

I announced to the House of Commons yesterday the creation of a post of chief executive, and the appointment of Mark Addison — handpicked for his skills in change management. He will take charge of the administration and control of the organisation as a whole, relieving the DPP of much of the managerial and administrative work so that he or she can concentrate on the considerable legal responsibilities that go with the position. The layer of management associated with the present 13 areas will disappear. The chief executive will draw on the suggestions made by Sir Iain and his team to work out the best structure for the new local areas.

The guiding principle will be a slimmed-down national headquarters, with the focus on setting the national framework for prosecution and resourcing and monitoring the new more local autonomous areas. Accountability will no longer be through a cumbersome bureaucratic machine but through toughly audited targets and rigorous performance management. The maintenance of standards would be through the existing inspectorate, strengthened by the introduction of an independent element. Management will become a means to an end, not an end in its own right. One thing is certain: it will be management with a lighter touch than the present arrangements.

The Home Secretary and I promised a searching review of the organisation, policies and procedures of the CPS. I was convinced, from talking to judges, lawyers and policemen around the country, that the CPS, like much of the criminal justice system, had lost its way. But now the evidence is clear. Sir Iain Glidewell and his team found a service which had become too centralised and bureaucratic, and was not delivering the improvements expected when it was set up in 1986.

In the past few years work has been allocated to staff at a lower level than before. The report estimates that the top 400 CPS lawyers each spend less than a third of their time on casework or advocacy. So it is hardly surprising that at branch level, the CPS has more work to do and fewer experienced people to do it. They comment too that a form of management which breeds the amount of unhappiness and mistrust that they found among CPS staff cannot be sound.

If this is a harsh assessment, it is because clear diagnosis and sometimes surgery have to precede recovery. The good news is that the CPS already has the ingredients necessary for a healthy future. The vast majority of its lawyers and caseworkers are not only highly professional and committed but are itching to get on with what they are trained to do — prosecuting. All I have seen and heard in the past 12 months leaves me in no doubt that the CPS will respond enthusiastically to the Glidewell report.

Can all this be made to happen? Yes. The generous decision by Dame Barbara Mills, the DPP, to stand down as soon as a successor is nominated is helpful, facilitating the continuity of leadership and smooth transition essential for success. The mood is right inside and outside the service.

Finally, it should not be thought that the CPS alone in the criminal justice system is in need of reform. The Home Secretary is already addressing the problems associated with youth justice and delays in the system generally. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, is introducing improvements to the organisation and management of the magistrates courts system. The Glidewell report has imaginative and innovative proposals for how the different parts of the system fit together — for example, he suggests that an integrated unit should bring together work at present done separately in the CPS and by the police. The new "whole system" approach which the Government is bringing to criminal justice issues will ensure that the system develops in a coherent way. The country will then have an efficient, effective and just criminal prosecution system of which it can be proud.

The author is the Attorney-General.

Holy retreat

ST PAUL'S Cathedral has suppressed filming of a fly-on-the-wall documentary after lifting its cassock for the BBC camera crew. It seems fruit exchanges were threatening the cathedral's reputation. Six months ago St Paul's promised unlimited access for a whole year. But on at least two occasions recently the crew has been ordered out of the Chapter House during sensitive discussions. Kevin Hull, the producer, was also hauled in by Dr John Moses, the dean, and ticked off for snooping.

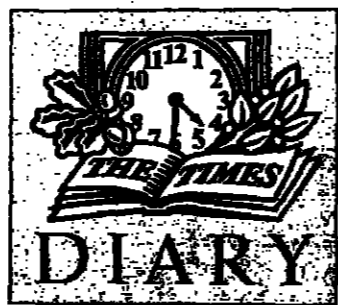
"Horror struck about what was being revealed," says one. "But ordering the camera crew out is madness: it's created the impression that there's something secret going on." St Paul's has suffered a few embarrassments of late. As I disclosed, the cathedral planned to cover a brass plaque dedicated to Sir Winston Churchill with a new altar. In November a couple were caught having sex behind the altar. Throughout last year the cathedral was divided when a female canon was appointed. Two recent fly-on-the-wall documentaries, *The House and Hotel*, proved troubling. "The film was something

that the dean wished to do, and unlimited access was granted before filming," confirms the cathedral. "But there have been times when they have not been allowed to film certain things." As life at Diary Towers is also to be so dissected, I have nothing but admiration for the dean's sagacity.

● **BEEFY goes beany.** Ian Botham, who acquired the bovine epithet while a big-hitter at the crease, says he is giving meat the chop. The maturing cricketer is to be snapped tucking into "Chilli Non Carne", part of the Linda McCartney range, to show that he is "turning vegetarian". Hmm. My spies will be observing steak houses closely.

Hay fever

TINA BROWN'S wheeze to fly Bill Clinton's lawyer to Britain at the weekend to mount a defence of presidential privacy proved a rather trying experience. The editor of the *New Yorker*, I am told, paid between £10,000 and £24,000 to bring Bob Bennett over to attack intrusion in a debate at the Hay Festi-



ends" where he huddles with bonding tapes — including, in the past, Bill and Hillary Clinton — to "feel each other's pain".

Family affairs

TERRY MAJOR-BALL, gadfly brother of the former Prime Minister, is worried about the upcoming battle of the weddings: Terry, whose son Mark has just announced his engagement, fears he won't be invited to the family's more glamorous bash — the pneumatic alliance between James Major and Emma Noble. "I don't know if we will be invited," he confides. "My son Mark has just an-



● **THE American Ambassador is taking a hike.** Philip Lader is determined to walk the length of Britain, and sets off for ten-mile jogs every weekend, leaving a trail of puffing plods. Still, it is less arduous than his "renaissance week-

nounced his engagement and I am so delighted. James's news hasn't really concerned me very much." He won't discuss Mark's new love, because he doesn't want her "suffering under the media spotlight", but he is forthright about Ms Noble. "I'm getting fed up with this reference to Emma being a topless dancer," says the expert. "However topless she may have been, it doesn't mean she isn't a nice girl."

● **JOHN PRESCOTT'S birthday party was lively.** Before the Deputy PM had a chance to blow out the 60 candles which Pauline Prescott had placed on his cake, it caught light and filled the house with smoke. Chumbawamba, the anarchist pop combo which threw water over the couple, were sadly not on hand to douse the flames.

Stage stuck

EMMA THOMPSON is an open-minded woman. She keeps returning to watch Greg Wise, the youthful boyfriend she met while filming *Sense and Sensibility*, play a libidinous barrister. Thompson has been treated to multiple showings of Wise enjoying multiple pleasures with a beguiling young thing, played by Ruth Gemmell, in *Nabokov's Gloves* at the Hampstead Theatre. "Emma's been to



see the play quite a few times," says a stage plank. I am sure that Ms Thompson (pictured), always a keen student of the acting profession, picked up a few handy tips.

● **A RIVETING exclusive from my preferred bedtime reading.** *Librarian* News reports that Celia Brayfield, the bestselling author of *Pearls and Getting Home*, owes everything to Brent Library. One to keep under your hat, Celia.

JASPER GERARD

CP 11/15/50



THE TORY TEAM

A stronger Shadow Cabinet for a still tough terrain

William Hague has taken a calculated risk with his Shadow Cabinet reshuffle. That risk, however, concerns its timing rather than the composition of his new team. He has acted without knowing what Tony Blair will do when he comes to reshape the Government shortly. Those alterations may involve the restructuring of Whitehall departments as well as the movement of individual ministers. It seems possible that the Prime Minister will opt for extensive change. If that happens then Mr Hague may have to finesse further his own arrangements. That might prove mildly embarrassing and inconvenient. The Conservative leader has evidently decided that, despite this danger, he could delay no longer. Mr Hague's claim that the Opposition will now prove more effective at holding the Government to account in the House of Commons is certainly credible. The Conservatives could scarcely prove less successful in that task than they have been over the past 12 months. The Tories' problems within Parliament have been threefold. First, their front bench has contained a set of far too familiar figures. They have hardly helped Mr Hague in his task of projecting a fresh image. Secondly, the Tories have not developed any consistent or compelling themes in their critique of New Labour. Thirdly, their tone in those areas that they have chosen to highlight has been consistently abrasive. This has undermined the potential impact that Mr Hague's own very impressive set-piece speeches should have made. Mr Hague has improved the quality of his messengers. Peter Lilley was the obvious person to undertake a fundamental review of party policy. It makes solid sense for him to concentrate completely on that role. His replacement as Shadow Chancellor, Francis Maude, is an elegant and tough operator. Michael Ancram should prove a shrewd choice when he becomes party chairman.

His command of constitutional issues will prove invaluable if there is a referendum on election reform next year. Ann Widdecombe and David Willetts will strengthen the Tories in the crucial domestic spheres of health and education. The promotions of Dr Liam Fox, Gary Streeter and Peter Ainsworth, along with the more junior appointments, are perfectly logical as well. These changes mask considerable continuity. Mr Hague could have chosen to be much more radical. A large number of refugees from the Major era - Sir Norman Fowler, Michael Howard, Gillian Shephard, and Sir George Young - remain in reshuffled positions. Some of them, such as Sir Norman Fowler, are still effective performers. Others, like Mrs Shephard, have been almost invisible and could have easily returned to their families. Mr Hague seems to have concluded that, for the sake of party balance and the need to keep seats warm if Michael Portillo or Sir Malcolm Rifkind were to return to frontline politics, he would retain their services. The price of postponing their final departure is that the public will see little novelty in this team. The Shadow Cabinet now contains a more convincing set of communicators. This will be of real value only if the Tory message alters as well. There are some signs of a shift in strategy as well as spokesmen. The elevation of Miss Widdecombe, Mr Willetts and Mr Maude suggests a new emphasis on the "broken promises" of Labour's early pledges on NHS waiting lists, classroom numbers and covert taxation. These are significant matters of proper public concern. If the tone adopted is one of sorrow not anger - and positive alternative policies are put forward - then this might be promising terrain for the Tories. It is terrain that Mr Hague has still to learn more about: he will be engaged in Shadow Cabinet reshuffles for some years to come.

THE ELTIS CASE

Even joining a successful EMU will bring disaster

The European Central Bank was officially established yesterday in an atmosphere more of cock-eyed optimism than clear sight. Those EU countries that plan to tie their currencies together consider themselves bold and visionary. Bold they certainly are; foolhardy they may also turn out to be. As a pamphlet from the Centre for Policy Studies points out, the economic perils of EMU are great even before the political considerations are taken into account. Walter Eltis, its author, is a distinguished theoretical and practical economist. His arguments demonstrate not just the inadvisability of Britain joining a single currency, but also the strains that the system itself will have to endure whether Britain is a member or not. Even if EMU is a "success", however defined, there are problems that are singular to the UK that would make membership for this country a dangerous gamble. British consumers are far more sensitive to changes in interest rates than those in continental Europe. Because the mortgage market is so competitive here, home loans are freely available. As a result, aggregate mortgage debt is 60 per cent of GDP in Britain, compared with 40 per cent in Germany, 25 per cent in France and 10 per cent in Italy. This means that changes in the euro's interest rate would have a far greater effect on the British economy than on those of other member states. Professor Eltis cites a recent report from an independent committee which concluded that the impact of a change in interest rates on domestic demand after two years is four times greater in the UK than the EU average. In a single currency, then, with a uniform interest rate, Britain would be like a building with a faulty thermostat, always either sweltering or freezing. This would exacerbate the boom

and bust swings that Gordon Brown is dedicated to ending. Proponents of British membership always cite "influence" as the main reason for joining. Yet the UK would have only one vote out of six on the ECB's board. The other five would be dedicated to achieving interest rates that suited the rest of Europe. Inside EMU, Britain would have a voice, but nobody would listen. Outside EMU, it could set rates that were precisely appropriate to the state of its economy. Professor Eltis also points out that the industrial structure of the UK differs from that of continental Europe. As well as producing oil, this country has a larger share of high-technology exports than any of its European competitors. Broadly speaking, Britain excels in pharmaceuticals, telecommunications and aerospace, while France, Germany and Italy do better at cars, white goods and mechanical engineering. Our principal high-tech competitors are the US and Japan, which is why sterling shadows the dollar as well as the mark: in the past two years, sterling has risen 27 per cent against continental currencies but only 9 per cent against the dollar. The euro is likely to be more volatile against the dollar and the yen than sterling is. So joining EMU will not even achieve currency stability. Professor Eltis goes on to show why he believes that the whole single currency project is likely to fail, because continental European countries have high structural unemployment which will be exacerbated by the constraints of EMU. But opponents of British membership do not need the single currency to collapse for their arguments to have force. As this pamphlet shows, even membership of a successful EMU could be a disaster for the UK.

OVERDUE RED CARD

Undisciplined prima donnas are unfit for team sports

In spite of the petulance and tears, dropping Paul Gascoigne from England's squad for the World Cup was the right decision. His career was allowed to run out of control for too long before he was dropped. For too long he was allowed and encouraged to behave in a way that demeans his sport. Glenn Hoddle took a brave decision to get rid of him. But Hoddle should have drawn a line on the pitch months ago, after yet another of his maverick star's escapades of bad behaviour and indiscipline. Gascoigne could then have been given a genuine choice between his rackets lifestyle and playing as a professional for his country. To persist with Gascoigne after so many lapses and warnings was crowd-pleasing appeasement. To drop him was also the right decision in footballing and sporting terms. Gascoigne was almost fit when England qualified in Rome a year ago. But since then injuries, indolence and excesses have made him incapable of playing for the full 90 minutes, as he showed on the pitch in England's warm-up campaign. If England fail in the World Cup, there will be some to say that this was because of Gascoigne was not in the side. He is the one player with the creativity and flashes of magic to open up a defence. He was the only player who had previous experience of playing in a World Cup. He was once one of the players of world class in the England side.

the principal fear of other national sides. And his failure is a failure of management and of football generally. The English invented games not merely as recreation, but also, with Victorian high-mindedness, in order to inculcate discipline and team spirit. Players were expected to train hard, to play hard and to put their teams first. But the astronomical salaries of modern footballers and their celebrity as television superstars has turned football into a branch of showbusiness. So it is no surprise when they behave as wantonly as pop stars. It is the duty and function of football managers to manage their young lions, of whom the best players can be the wildest. Matt Busby was the one man who could tame the wilful genius of George Best. Sir Alf Ramsey, himself an almost Victorian judge of character, had no hesitation in dropping Jimmy Greaves at the height of his fame. It is impossible to imagine Ramsey playing a side with the latest manifestations of Gascoigne in it. He would have sacked him months ago for more serious sporting indiscipline than an addiction to junk food, cigarettes and fast living. So it is indeed a pity that a fit Paul Gascoigne cannot play for England in the World Cup. But it would be a greater pity if he were to play for England in his present condition. And his dropping is a salutary revision in the old-fashioned lessons of team spirit, discipline and unselfishness.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Time to test 'new shape' for the NHS of the 21st century

From Professor Michael Rosen

Sir, Closure of any hospital service is unpopular with the public, and therefore politicians, since it is perceived as reducing local services. Your leading article of May 26, "Open and shut cases", points out that the public do not want a 100-mile round trip for a relatively minor ailment. Problems in the delivery of health-care are complex; rural and urban solutions should differ. Most people however live in, or near, towns, in some of which there are two or three hospitals close together, each of them open for 24 hours for emergency admissions, with one accident and emergency department between them. There are teams of trainee surgeons, anaesthetists, obstetricians and physicians in each, but usually one consultant per speciality on call for all. This is a consultant-led service; but with limited involvement of individual consultants in each hospital. Rationalisation on one site would improve the quality of these reduplicated emergency services, as well as enabling greater participation by specialised services in head and chest injury, stroke and heart attacks. In some towns, traffic congestion and

major emergency services. To encourage this to happen requires changes in legislation, to remove the present unlimited personal financial liability of most GPs, as well as an expansion in the number of GPs. Some hospitals would close; but most elective services could remain local. Capital from government for new hospitals and primary-care centres is insufficient. It was encouraging to learn at the Novartis workshop, therefore, that the Private Finance Initiative is, at last, solving its problems and may become more widely available: the healthcare industry, too, is interested in developing primary-care centres. There is a need to consider a new shape for the NHS for the 21st century. Ideas should be tested now. Protesting about closures may be popular, but will not deliver more effective national and local medical services. Yours etc. MICHAEL ROSEN (President, Royal College of Anaesthetists, 1988-91), 45 Hollybush Road, Cardiff CF2 6SZ, May 27.

road access are barriers. A solution may require a greenfield site, with local authority collaboration to improve road, bus and rail services. Earlier this month I chaired a workshop arranged by the Novartis Foundation (formerly the Ciba Foundation), attended, among others, by representatives from the Royal Colleges, the BMA, the Department of Health, the Treasury and industry, which considered how rationalisation of the emergency services might be accomplished without diminution of local services and even with some improvements. General practice, especially in the cities, is moving towards concentration. Groups of doctors are coming together in primary-care centres, with greatly improved facilities (such as physical therapy and pharmacy) and infrastructure: some of these may be associated with community hospitals, which could also house day-surgery centres, staffed from the regional or district hospital. Seventy per cent of elective surgery could be carried out at these hospitals. A minor-accident service, as part of the primary-care service, would enable most patients to be treated nearer their home whilst rationalising the

Teachers at risk of sex accusations

From Mr Gary Drewett

Sir, I share Mr Michael Wright's unease about the speed with which the police release to the media the names of those charged with sex offences (letter, May 21). Earlier this month my brother was led to suicide as the only release from sensational and unscrupulous articles in the press which made him out to be guilty of indecent assault. His life was destroyed by their implication. "Guilty until proven innocent" was the verdict of these articles. Clearly children and their parents are able to defame teachers and community leaders whilst the rights and interests of those adults are not properly protected. Teachers must live in fear of the slightest allegation since even the most normal physical contact with children can later be misconstrued and invite criminal prosecution: an accused teacher never finds his career or esteem restored, even when he is eventually proven innocent. However, testimony to my brother's innocence is the register of 700 colleagues, friends, students and family who attended his funeral. The protection of children is of course essential, but the rights of innocent adults should not be violated so lightly. So often it is the more concerned teachers like my brother who are most at risk, particularly when they organise extracurricular activities for the benefit of the children. Yours faithfully, GARY DREWETT, 5 Bridge Court, King Charles Road, Surbiton, Surrey KT5 8NS, May 28.

Press code 'success'

From Mr Christopher Romyn

Sir, I think that Lord Wakeham, in his letter of May 27 claiming the success of the Press Complaints Commission's code of conduct, misunderstands the phrase "it is exceptions which prove rules". It is when the exception is met with that the rule is tested. Thus if the rule fails to hold, when confronted by the exception, it is disproved. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER ROMYN, 41 Burrey Lane, Oxted, Surrey RH8 0AJ, May 27.

Welsh alternatives

From Dr Anthony Langford

Sir, Your Diary reports today that BT telephone boxes in Surrey are offering a Welsh language option. Recently I visited the Leeds Central Library to search for an edition of *Sir Matthew Passion* in German. An assistant eventually informed me that there was none available, but that if I wished I could borrow one in Welsh. Perhaps the reason is that the work is by Bach. Yours faithfully, ANTHONY LANGFORD (Head of Academic Studies), Leeds College of Music, 3 Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7PD. a.langford@leedscolmusic.ac.uk May 29.

Nodded off?

From Ms Jill Paton Walsh

Sir, One of the pleasures of reading *The Times* is the occasional announcement in your columns of huge advances in scholarship. I am delighted to learn from your report today that Homer visited the villa of Lucius Calpurnius Piso, Julius Caesar's father-in-law. I await with bated breath the identification of Trad, and Anon, who were also incomparable authors, and perhaps also guests of the learned senator. Yours faithfully, JILL PATON WALSH, 72 Water Lane, Histon, Cambridge CB4 4LR, May 25.

A wise saw

From Mr John Raybould

Sir, As well as my mother's good advice (letter, "The case for cash", May 26), the exhortation by Mr Smith, my woodwork master at Westminster City School some fifty years ago, has always stuck in my mind. "Measure twice, cut once," he belaboured. This principle has served me well, not just when attempting do-it-yourself handiwork but also when making decisions in business or in my family. Yours sincerely, JOHN RAYBOULD, 88 Lawrence Moorings, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire CM21 9PE, May 27.

Fair exchange?

From Lord Desai

Sir, Gazza as the next Ginger Spice? Yours sincerely, MEHNAAD DESAI, House of Lords, June 1

'Double standards' on nuclear tests

From Professor Joseph Rotblat, FRS

Sir, Your leader ("Nuclear illogic", May 30; see also letters, June 1) starts off correctly by pointing out the dangerous fallacy in assuming that in the wake of the Indian and Pakistani nuclear tests deterrence will now operate to prevent war. You should have gone a step further and said that the same applies to the five "official" nuclear weapon states. The general condemnation of India and Pakistan is fully justified, but we need to be reminded that neither of them was a signatory of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and their tests were not illegal under international law. On the other hand, all the five nuclear powers did sign the NPT and - under Article VI - they are committed to nuclear disarmament. This commitment was reaffirmed in 1995, when the NPT was extended indefinitely, but their actual policies are in contradiction to it. They adamantly refuse even to put nuclear disarmament on the agenda of the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. A document leaked last winter in the United States - PDD-60 (Presidential Decision Directive) to the US military high command - seems to indicate that the US Government would consider the retention of nuclear weapons as essential as a deterrent against nuclear attack, but also against an attack with any kind of weapon; in other words, it would permit "first use" of nuclear weapons. As long as the "top table" of world powers persist in the belief that nuclear weapons are needed for security it will be impossible to deny such security to other nations that really feel insecure.

which was never more than a doomsday scenario of the Soviet Union attempting a pre-emptive "defensive" nuclear strike, your leader provides the most succinct and convincing summary that I have read in forty years' interest in this grim subject. Your consequent recommendations regarding international policy towards India and Pakistan fall short of the understanding and logic apparent in your introduction. Economic sanctions imposed on Slobodan Milosevic and Saddam Hussein hurt their populations but have had only marginal impact on their leaders' domestic or foreign policies. Unlike these dictators, the Governments of India and Pakistan rely on the whim of notoriously volatile electorates. These electorates have - innocently or naively perhaps - fired up the dangerous situation we now see developing in the great subcontinent. Economic sanctions, which would hurt the poor and weaken the Governments, are the option of despair. Rather let the nuclear powers soberly invite the leaders of India and Pakistan to the high table of technological and strategic maturity, there to be brought to see the stern responsibilities their rivalries have brought about. They may regard each other as enemies but both are our friends. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL TILLOTSON, The Hall, Pin House, Chudleigh Knighton, Devon TQ13 0EL, June 1.

Minimum wage

From the Chair of the British Youth Council

Sir, If lower wages for young people are legalised under the minimum wage proposals (report, May 28), it will be the crudest and unfairest form of age discrimination. Young people have suffered significantly at the hands of policymakers in recent years: unequal benefits, falling grants and tuition fees are just a few of the policies that have made it harder for them to get a good start in life. Young people already make up a large proportion of the lowest paid and the proposed rate of £3.20 an hour for those aged 18 to 21 will simply make it harder for them to get a living wage and easier for employers to exploit them.

We cannot go on tolerating double standards. The radical way to solve the nuclear issue is to eliminate nuclear weapons by a multinational agreement through mutual, balanced and verifiable disarmament measures. This is the declared policy of the British Government, and the best response to the current crisis would be for Britain to take the initiative towards the implementation of that policy by persuading the other nuclear powers to agree to discuss these matters at the Conference on Disarmament or some other forum. Yours faithfully, J. ROTBLAT, 8 Asmara Road, NW2 3ST, June 1.

Young people do not want special treatment; they simply want to be judged on their own merits. It is myth that all young people are free, single, without responsibility and thus able to live on less. To the many who can and do make the same contribution at work and to society as do older adults this is most unjust. To those who have the same responsibilities - partners, parents, taxpayers and homeowners - it must be frightening. An exemption for those under 18 and a reduced rate for those under 21 will, of course, greatly benefit those sectors of industry which employ large numbers of young people. But that does not make it ethical or fair. This is not a new deal: it's a raw deal. Yours sincerely, MARTIN WILSON, Chair, British Youth Council, 65-69 White Lion Street, N1 9PP, May 28.

From Mr John F. Martin Sir, A minimum wage of £3.60 per hour grosses up to £7.113 per annum for a 38-hour week; but what really concerns a worker is take-home pay. In the case of a single person £7.113 would give rise to a tax liability of £583 and take-home pay before deduction of NI of £6,530. Furthermore, most expenditure from this amount, other than on rent and food, would give rise to VAT of at least 17% per cent. It is not the low level of the minimum wage alone that gives cause for concern but the penal taxation to which it is subject. Yours truly, JOHN F. MARTIN, 57 Tyeburst Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 1BZ.

From Mr Michael Webber Sir, I am in no doubt that, as reported on the front page today, Sir Colin Marshall, President of the CBI, could "live with a minimum wage of £3.50 or £3.60 an hour". The real question is could he, and those others seeking as low a rate as they can get away with, live on it?

Yours sincerely, MICHAEL WEBBER, 23a Alma Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 5LU, May 28.

'Stealing' time

From Mr Gerald Mosback

Sir, Isn't it about time we stopped giving in to pseudo-legal "frighniener" phrases on car park tickets (letter, June 1)? It is so easy to print "not transferable" on these tickets, when in fact we have bought the time we paid for and can presumably pass any unexpired time to whomever we please. If we pay for a £5 telephone card, the time we have bought is ours to use or let someone else use as we think fit. I do not see why the car park companies, already making millions from vacant lots, should expect to be paid five or six times over for the same period. Yours faithfully, G. P. MOSBACK, 6 Gilbert House, Lexden Park, Colchester, Essex CO3 3UF, June 1.

Judgment on judges

From Mr Peter F. Carter-Ruck

Sir, If the judiciary were judged solely on the letters (May 21) from your correspondents, it would leave readers with a very unfair impression. My own experience has been wholly different. I cite the renowned care and patience of Lord Denning when having to deal with litigants in person and, by way of example, one of the cases where I was applying for an interlocutory injunction before - as he then was - Mr Justice Donaldson. After sitting on short notice throughout a Friday afternoon, the case had not finished. He agreed to sit, at personal inconvenience, on the Saturday morning and again on the Saturday afternoon to finish the case, which he said he would treat as the trial of the action. He dealt with the case with such expedition that we had to ask for leave to issue the writ after he had delivered the judgment in the action. As a keen yachtsman he gave up half his weekend to serve the interests of the litigants. I could certainly give a number of other examples within my own experience. Yours faithfully, PETER CARTER-RUCK, Peter Carter-Ruck and Partners (solicitors), International Press Centre, 76 Shoe Lane, ECA4 3JB, May 27.

Cruelty in films

From the Director of the British Board of Film Classification

Sir, Your report (May 30) on the British Board of Film Classification's public meeting in Birmingham last week suggested that we allow the sight of horses being tripped with tripwires. What I said was the reverse of that. Citing a 1937 Act of Parliament which makes it illegal to show any scene in the making of which an animal was treated cruelly, I showed some examples, commenting: "Horses can't be trained to do somersaults, and many have been killed just to make an exciting sequence. In films, the only snuff sequences we see at the board are those that involve the slaughter of animals. We see them, but you don't, because we cut them out, as the law requires, before the films are released. The BBFC is the strictest authority in the world on cruelty to animals in films, regularly consulting the RSPCA and the American Humane Association where the issue is in doubt. We are backed up by an exceptionally humane example of British law, which enables us to ban cock-fights, animal baiting and torture of the most distressing kinds. Our rigorous enforcement of this law will continue. Yours sincerely, JAMES FERMAN, Director, British Board of Film Classification, 3 Soho Square, W1V 6HD, June 1

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail: letters@times.co.uk

MES TUESDAY JUNE 2 1998
Too tied in red tape to prosecute
John Morris says the CPS has failed to deliver justice

OBITUARIES

SIR DAVID HUDDIE

Sir David Huddie, engineer and former Rolls-Royce executive, died on May 14 aged 82. He was born on March 12, 1916.



Huddie saw commercial triumph turn to corporate disaster at Rolls-Royce

As managing director of the aero-engine division of Rolls-Royce, David Huddie won the contract to supply the RB211 engine for the new Lockheed L1011 trijet airliner. When the deal was signed in New York on March 29, 1968, it was widely hailed as a commercial and engineering triumph, proof that in the fiercely competitive global market for high technology, there would always be a place for traditional British skills.

At the time it looked like the biggest single export deal in British history. The initial order was worth £150 million, with £1 billion of further sales in prospect over ten to fifteen years. Rolls-Royce had secured the business on merit alone, by offering the best engine at the best price. Its design was not only better than that of its nearest rival, the General Electric Corporation: it was good enough to succeed even against a weak dollar and a rising tide of "Buy American" sentiment in the US.

Tony Benn, the Minister for Technology whose department, in what he called "an interesting example of partnership between government and industry", had given significant support to the engine's development, welcomed the RB211 order as "a terrific boost to British technology and its export potential". The sentiment was widely shared. "Against all odds Rolls-Royce has pulled it off," a Times editorial proclaimed. Some £30 million was added to the company's share value overnight.

Three years later Rolls-Royce was bankrupt. Huddie's negotiating team, in its eagerness to win the Lockheed contract, had acceded to technical demands which would pose a formidable challenge to the RB211's designers. In doing so, they created a daunting burden of research and development costs which Rolls-Royce was insufficiently capitalised to meet.

A Government-commissioned report published in August 1973 blamed the company's collapse into receivership on a "rash commitment" to a deal which had "awesome dangers". "It is not always wrong for a business to put all its eggs in one basket," the report's authors ob-

served, "nor is it always wrong for a business to undertake a speculative project. But for a business to combine the two is to court disaster."

Huddie, who had been knighted in the Birthday Honours of 1968, found himself censured, along with the former Rolls-Royce chairman Sir Denning Pearson, for "failing properly to discharge the responsibilities of stewardship which rest upon the directors of a public company". By then both men had already resigned. Huddie on health grounds in October 1970.

Nevertheless, the engine whose development they backed with such calamitous short-term consequences has been a remarkable long-term success. Today, after three decades which have seen Rolls-Royce's engineering business first nationalised and then privatised again, there are more than 2,300 RB211 engines still in service around the world.

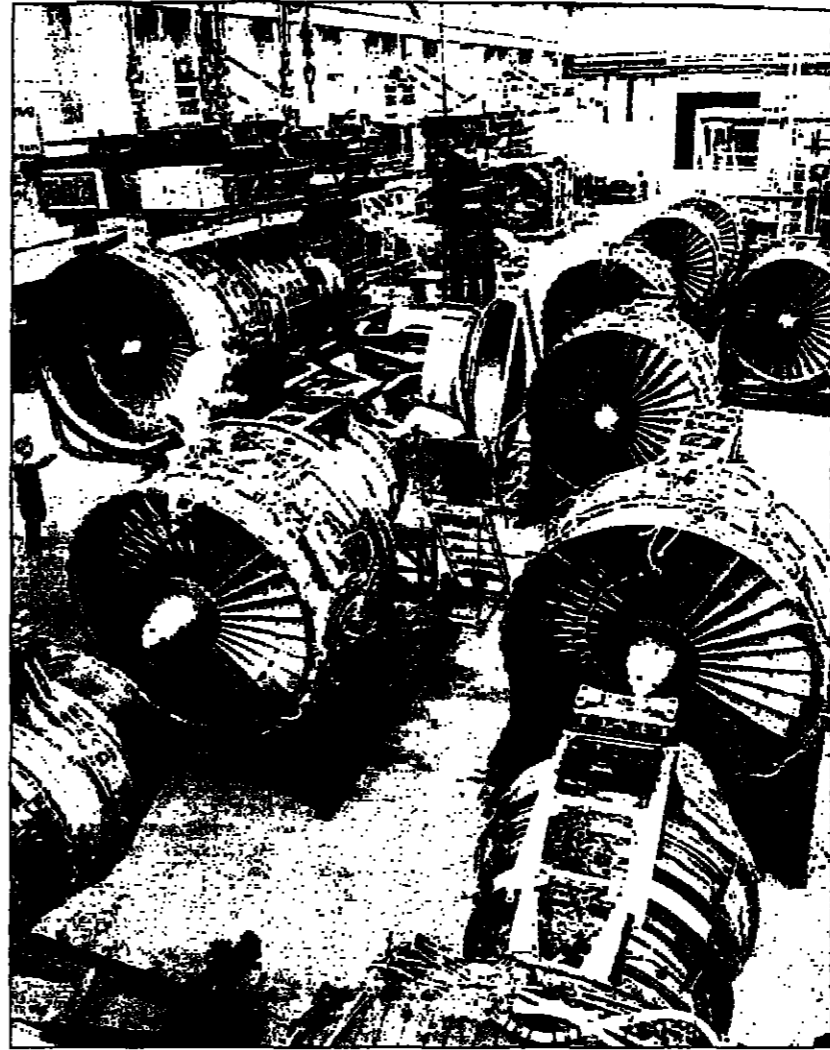
David Patrick Huddie gave his working life to Rolls-Royce. Born in Fermagh, he was educated in Dublin, at Mountjoy School and at Trinity College, where he took a first in mathematics and

economics. He joined Rolls-Royce in 1939, working in the stress section of the design office. As one of those involved in developing the Merlin engine so as to increase its power, he helped to make a vital contribution to the success of the RAF's Spitfires in the Battle of Britain.

During the war Huddie served with the 12th Battalion, Derbyshire Home Guard. When Huddie joined the company, Rolls-Royce had no position in commercial aviation. He was involved in the first tentative steps in that direction, with the development after the war of the Merlin engine for the Avro Tudor and later of the DC4M. By 1947 he was assistant chief engineer, working on a range of engines which included the Dart.

From the late 1950s onwards he took on a more general managerial role, assuming responsibility for sales and service in 1958, and joining the board as commercial director two years later. It was in that capacity, and subsequently as general manager and then managing director of the aero-engine division, that he played a key part in the development of the RB211.

Rolls-Royce had long been determined to establish itself as a major supplier of engines for the new wide-fuselage, high capacity airliners which were revolutionising the air travel business. To do so it had to secure a big order from one of the big international operators.



RB211 aero-engines undergoing tests at the Rolls-Royce works in Derby

to establish itself as a major supplier of engines for the new wide-fuselage, high capacity airliners which were revolutionising the air travel business. To do so it had to secure a big order from one of the big international operators.

In 1961 the company began development at its Derby works of a new generation of turbofan engines - quieter, simpler and more economical than conventional turbojets, and capable of vastly greater power. This was clearly where the

future lay, but the prospect of continuing the multimillion-pound research and development programme without firm orders from an airframe manufacturer was almost too unenviable to consider, even with the promise of government support.

Winning the contract to supply the three engines for Lockheed's new L1011 airliner became a matter of the highest priority. Worried by the parochial, protectionist attitudes increasingly evident in

the American market (fuelled by a rising US balance of payments deficit and encouraged by populist politicians), Huddie took the unusual step of giving up his post as managing director of the Rolls-Royce aero-engine division and moving his home and his office to New York.

There he began an all-out propaganda war, bombarding American airline executives with facts and figures designed to show why they should choose the Rolls-Royce RB211 engine for their new jets. The campaign "made a tremendous impact". Huddie felt, in overcoming American political objections to a British bid.

Devaluation of the pound in 1967 gave a further boost to Rolls-Royce's efforts, reducing the duty-paid price of its engines to under \$300,000 each and comfortably undercutting rival American bids from GEC and Pratt & Whitney. The cost advantage, especially when backed by the promise of government development money, was enough to secure the deal: the Rolls-Royce design was in any case superior to its rivals.

When the strain of fulfilling the contract sent Rolls-Royce into receivership in February 1971, it was perhaps inevitable that Huddie, whose efforts had done so much to secure a deal that at the time was almost universally welcomed, would have to bear much of the blame. He had, in fact, collapsed under the pressure of October 1970, and on medical advice had left the company for what he called "a less headline-catching occupation" as a senior research fellow of Imperial College. There he was involved in examining the undergraduate teaching of engineers, something on which he had strong views.

Out of loyalty to Rolls-Royce he said little about the corporate disaster. He admitted that the costs and the potential problems had been underestimated, but he remained convinced that the basic judgement to build the engine was right. He felt also that other members of the Rolls-Royce main board, not to mention some government ministers, bore at least some of the responsibility for what went wrong. Twenty-five years after leaving the company, he returned to give the Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust Lecture on the launch of the RB211. Nearly all his old team turned out to hear him.

David Huddie married Wilhelmina Betty Booth in 1941. She survives him, together with their three sons.

PROFESSOR JACOB KATZ

Jacob Katz, Professor Emeritus of Modern Jewish History at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, died there on May 21 aged 93. He was born in Pajce, Hungary, in 1904.

JACOB KATZ was the doyen of Jewish historians, an outstanding scholar who broke new ground in many branches of modern Jewish history in Europe. A number of his works are seminal, especially those books and articles dealing with relations between Jews and Gentiles on the roots of modern secular anti-Semitism, on Jewish family life towards the end of the 16th century, and, latterly, a groundbreaking study of rab-

binic law and its attitude to the doctrine of Kabbala (Jewish mysticism). Jacob Katz was the son of orthodox, lower middle-class parents who lived in the small Hungarian town of Pajce. As a teenager he went to a talmudical college in Frankfurt-am-Main. Years later he studied sociology and history at Frankfurt University under the eminent sociologist Karl Mannheim, who left a lasting influence on him. He won his doctorate in 1934 with a thesis on Jewish assimilation, and this remains an important study.

In 1936 he migrated to Palestine, where he taught in various religious schools. In 1950 he joined the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and



In 1962 became Professor of Jewish Social and Educational History. From 1969 to 1971 he was Rector of the University.

During his first ten years in Palestine he wrote mainly on educational psychology, and

in 1944 produced a school textbook of Jewish history which went through four editions.

His first major study was his book *Tradition and Crisis* (1958, English translation 1961). It took him 14 years to complete. His talmudic training helped him to analyse difficult rabbinic texts. In 1949 he published a major article on the forerunners of Zionism, portraying the Utopian element in their thinking, their lack of political experience, the want of any mass organisation to support their ideas, to say nothing of their general vagueness as to how to achieve their aims.

In a short study on modern anti-Semitism (1969), he traced the origins of the anti-Semitic

idea that Jews are a state within a state to their life in Prussia, which, as a reaction to the French Revolution, had granted emancipation to French Jews in September 1791. Many years later he published a perceptive monograph on the anti-Semitism of Richard Wagner. He also wrote in an original manner on a Provencal rabbi of the 14th century who developed new ideas regarding the Christian world, and ranks as a forerunner of toleration.

Subsequently, his main contributions were on the Enlightenment and the early stages of emancipation in Germany and Austria and upon some of its leading exponents. This line of investigation culminated in his classic book *Out of the Ghetto* (1973), which dealt with the way mainly German Jews were assimilating and entering the bourgeoisie era of modern capitalism. In Heine's phrase: "They gained an entrance ticket to Western society."

As a result, Katz tackled a subject which was *terra incognita*, the admission of Jews to Masonic lodges, one of the early results of emancipation. Articles and books flowed from his pen in rapid succession. His reputation grew and he was invited frequently to lecture at Harvard and other universities.

One of his last great studies was on how rabbinic law reacted to the Jewish mystic doctrine of Kabbala, and how in any conflict between them the rabbinic law prevailed.

Just after his 75th birthday his former students and other scholars published an impressive festschrift in his honour (1980). Two years before his death he wrote a history of Hungarian Jewry, and also a short autobiography. He left a manuscript on the historiography of the Jews, two chapters of which were published.

He is survived by his wife and three sons.

Lana Morris, film, stage and television actress, died in hospital in Slough on May 27 aged 68, after being taken ill at the Theatre Royal Windsor. She was born on March 11, 1930.

LANA MORRIS, whose sudden death came the day after the first performance of her latest stage role, is one of the most affectionately remembered British film stars of the 1940s and 1950s. With her large, mischievous and brilliantly expressive black eyes, Latin looks and a sex appeal considerably ahead of its time, she stood out from the anodyne ranks of postwar screen starlets. Her vivid personality and highly individual acting style later brought her a distinguished career on stage and television.

Born Avril Maureen Anita Morris in Ruislip, she came from a robust theatrical tradition. Her mother was the silent screen actress Corinne Burford, and her great-grandfather appeared with Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum Theatre and Drury Lane. After an unilluminated debut as a dancer in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, on July 16, 1946, she made her screen debut at 16 under the name Pamela Matthews, playing David Tomlinson's wife in *School For Secrets*, written and directed by Peter Ustinov.

She changed her name to Lana Morris shortly before Herbert Wilcox cast her as Rosie, the hip-swinging Cockney maid (Same measurements as Beryl Grable - "was I'm a fool").

Morris began a twin career on television in the 1950s, making a particular success as the barmaid in Margaret Lockwood's hit series, *The Royal Family*, in 1957, and ten years later as Kenneth More's French mistress, Helene, in *The Forsyte Saga*. It was on

LANA MORRIS

Technicolor musical *Trottie True*, she gave a memorable performance as Bouncy, a gold-digging Gaiety Girl who marries an earl but runs off with his chauffeur. But Morris's undoubted dramatic abilities were recognised early in her career, and brought her leads in serious films such as *Somerset Maugham's Trio*, *The Woman in Question*, with Jean Kent and Dirk Bogarde, and *Morning Departure*, with



John Mills (with whom she also starred at the Aldwych Theatre in 1951 in *Figure of Fun*, directed by Peter Brook).

Other notable screen performances included *A Tale of Five Cities*, with Gina Lollobrigida, *The Red Beret*, with Alan Ladd, and two of Norman Wisdom's best comedies, *Trouble In Store* and *Man of the Moment*. It was her, in the first of these, that Wisdom sang the song that became his signature tune, *Don't Laugh at Me* ("was I'm a fool").

Morris began a twin career on television in the 1950s, making a particular success as the barmaid in Margaret Lockwood's hit series, *The Royal Family*, in 1957, and ten years later as Kenneth More's French mistress, Helene, in *The Forsyte Saga*. It was on

the set of another television programme, *Kaleidoscope*, that Morris met her husband, Ronnie Waldman, who later became the head of BBC Light Entertainment, and with whom, though he was 20 years her senior, she had a deeply happy marriage.

On the London stage, she gave performances of verve and authority in *The Sacred Flame*, with Gladys Cooper and Wendy Hiller, at the Duke of York's Theatre in 1967; in *Wait Until Dark* at the Duchess; in *Play on Love*, with Dorothy Tutin at the St Martin's in 1970; and with Moira Lister and Tony Britton in *Move Over Mrs Markham* at the Vaudeville in 1971. She returned to the West End in the comedy *Shut Your Eyes and Think of England* at the Apollo in 1978, and in 1983 took over Judi Dench's leading role in the touring production of *Pack of Lies*.

In the 1980s, she again made a success on television, playing Vanessa Andenberg in the popular BBC series *Howard's Way*, and appearing with John Thaw in *The Last Enemy*, an episode of *Inspector Morse*, in which she was as colourful as ever as a bohemian lady who taught the tango.

In 1996, as the last survivor of the cast of *Spring in Park Lane*, she presented flowers to the Princess Royal at the unveiling of a Mayfair plaque to the film's star and director, Dame Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox. She had just completed her first performance as Countess Zoe Granville in Barbara Taylor Bradford's play, *Dangerous to Know*, at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, opposite Michael Praed and Rula Lenska, when she was suddenly taken ill.

Her husband, Ronnie Waldman, died in 1978. She is survived by their son, Simon, editor of luncheonette programmes on BBC Radio's Five Live.

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Extradictable computer offences

Regina v Bow Street Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Allison
Before Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Blofeld
[Judgment May 13]

Unauthorised access to a computer with intent to commit or facilitate the commission of an offence and unauthorised modification of computer material under sections 2 and 3 of the Computer Misuse Act 1990 were extradition crimes under the Extradition Act 1989.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when, inter alia, dismissing an application by the Government of the United States of America for judicial review of the decision of Mr Nicholas Evans, Bow Street Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, on June 11, 1997 not to commit Aderjny Momosa Allison for extradition on two offences of conspiracy.

On June 18, 1996 Mr Allison was arrested at the request of the Government of the United States of America on the Home Secretary's authority under the Extradition Act 1989.

The three offences alleged that between January 1, 1996 and June 18, 1996 Mr Allison conspired with Joan Ojomo and others in Florida:

- (1) To secure unauthorised access to the American Express computer system with intent to commit theft.
- (2) To secure unauthorised access to the American Express computer system with intent to commit forgery.
- (3) To cause an unauthorised modification of the contents of the American Express computer system.

On June 11, 1997 the magistrate in deciding to commit only in respect of the third offence gave reasons only in respect of that offence.

Joan Ojomo was a credit card analyst authorised to access computer records of those who owed money to Amex. She was instructed which accounts she should work on but she had the ability to access other accounts and that was what, it was alleged, she did.

She then supplied account information to Mr Allison. Armed with that information, it was alleged he could then obtain a personal identification number or a replacement PIN from Amex, encode a credit card and draw large sums of money from automatic teller machines.

Miss Clare Montgomery, QC and Miss Helen Malcolm for Mr Allison; Mr James Lewis for the United States of America.

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY said that the three Florida offences alleged contravened sections 2 and 3 of the 1990 Act which the applicant submitted were not extradition crimes. Section 1(3) of the 1989 Act provided that where an Order in Council under section 2 of the Extradition Act 1987 was in force in relation to a foreign state, and that was agreed to be the position in relation to the United States, Schedule 1 to the 1989 Act should have effect subject to limitations, restrictions, conditions, exceptions and qualifications, if any, contained in the Order.

paragraph 20 provided that in the Schedule, unless the context otherwise required, "extradition crime" in relation to any foreign state was to be construed by reference to the Order in Council under section 2 of the 1987 Act applying to that state as it had effect immediately before the coming into force of the 1989 Act and to any amendments thereafter made to that Order.

The United States of America (Extradition) Order (SI 1976 No 2144) gave effect to the 1972 bilateral Extradition Treaty. The text of the Treaty was to be found in Schedule 1 to the 1976 Order article 3 of which provided:

"(1) Extradition shall be granted for an act or omission the facts of which disclose an offence within any of the descriptions listed in the Schedule annexed to this treaty, which is an integral part of the Treaty, or any other offence, if (a) the offence is punishable under the laws of both parties by imprisonment or other form of detention for more than one year ... (b) the offence is extraditable under the relevant law, being the law of the United Kingdom ... and (c) the offence constitutes a felony under the law of the United States of America.

"(2) Extradition shall also be granted for any attempt of conspiracy to commit an offence within paragraph (1) of this article. ... The Schedule to which article 3 referred did not contain any express reference to offences contrary to the 1990 Act.

Act, as amended, and it had to be an offence within the Order which incorporated the relevant treaty.

His Lordship accepted, that despite what was said in *R v Secretary for State for the Home Department, Ex parte Gilmore* (The Times July 4, 1997; [1998] 2 WLR 618), having regard to the wording of the 1989 Act, the two-stage approach was no longer necessary.

All that was necessary was to look at Schedule 1 to the 1987 Act and the relevant Order in Council which could if necessary be amended: see section 37(3) of the 1989 Act.

A relevant amendment in section 15 of the 1990 Act provided: "The offences to which an Order in Council under section 2 of the Extradition Act 1987 can apply shall include (a) offences under section 2 or 3 above; (b) any conspiracy to commit such an offence."

Mr Lewis pointed out that the statute could not amend the treaty, so what it did make was use of the treaty's reference to "any other offence" to extend the provisions of the Order to embrace the 1990 Act. In his Lordship's judgment that was the right approach.

If it was still necessary to look at the list in Schedule 1 of the 1987 Act, as amended, it was difficult to see why section 15 of the 1990 Act did not provide for a further amendment to be made to that list.

His Lordship therefore concluded that offences contrary to sections 2 and 3 of the 1990 Act were extradition crimes.

Mr Justice Blofeld agreed. Solicitors: Bayton Copeland; Crown Prosecution Service.

Prisoner cannot question scientist

Regina v Governor of Swaleside Prison, Ex parte Wynter
Before Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Blofeld
[Judgment May 13]

A prisoner who appeared before a prison disciplinary tribunal following positive mandatory drug tests should not be permitted to cross-examine the relevant laboratory scientist provided he had been informed about the procedures that were carried out and the checks that were made to ensure the accuracy of the tests.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when dismissing an application for judicial review by James Wynter of the decisions of the Governor of Swaleside Prison on November 21, 1997 finding him guilty of administering a controlled drug contrary to rule 47(8A) of the Prison Rules (SI 1964 No 388) as inserted by (SI 1994 No 3193).

Mr Peter Duffy, QC and Mr Leon Daniels for the applicant; Mr Kenneth Parker, QC and Mr Mark Harris for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE BLOFELD said that on October 29, 1997, the applicant was required to provide a sample of urine for the purpose of random testing for the presence of controlled drugs pursuant to section 16A of the Prison Act 1952, as inserted by section 15(1) of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

On November 5, 1997, he was issued with a screening certificate which stated that his urine had tested positive for opiates and cannabinoids. A confirmation certificate also certified that there were traces of opiates and cannabinoids in the applicant's urine consistent with the abuse of controlled drugs.

At a disciplinary hearing on November 21, 1997, the adjudicator refused the applicant's request for the laboratory scientist to be called to give evidence on the accuracy of the testing procedure.

The applicant was found guilty and received seven additional days for the presence of the cannabis and 21 additional days for the opiates. Both adjudications were subsequently quashed by the area manager of Swaleside Prison.

The ground for quashing the second adjudication was that the adjudicator might have failed properly to appreciate that the confirmation certificate was a hearsay document.

Although both charges had been quashed and the applicant was no longer in jeopardy, his Lordship said that it was appropriate to proceed with the application for the purpose of providing guidance on the future conduct of such drug test hearings.

to give indications as to what type of further information should be given to a prisoner who underwent a drug test which was found to be positive.

He submitted that there should be more information provided to the prisoner either by way of a statement from the scientist or by way of information attached to papers that are served on him.

Moreover, the applicant stressed that the scheme as set out in the prison rules and the Prison Discipline Manual should be followed. Paragraph 5.7 of the Manual stated that a finding of guilt based solely on hearsay evidence would clearly be unsafe.

By accepting the confirmatory certificate and refusing permission to the prisoner for the scientific witness to attend and be cross-examined, the prisoner was convicted wholly on hearsay evidence, it was submitted.

Rule 49 of the 1964 Rules stated that the prisoner should be afforded "(2) ... a full opportunity of hearing what is alleged against him and of presenting his own case."

In *R v Board of Visitors of Hull Prisons, Ex parte St Germain* (No 2) ([1979] 1 WLR 1401, 1404) Lord Justice Lane said that rule 49(2) reflected:

"... one of the most basic rules of natural justice, namely, that every party to the controversy has a right to a fair hearing. He must know what evidence has been given and what statements have been made affecting him; and then he must be given an opportunity to correct or contradict them."

His Lordship stated that the procedures of prison discipline tribunals were not laid down in statute and such tribunals were masters of their own procedure provided that they achieved the appropriate degree of fairness.

The overriding requirement was to ensure that tribunals were conducted in accordance with rule 49(2), giving full weight to what was said by Lord Justice Lane in *Ex parte St Germain*.

His Lordship acknowledged that the confirmation certificate was hearsay evidence but, by reason of

its nature, a fair hearing could be achieved by dealing with it differently from other types of evidence.

Prisoners should be told about the procedures that were carried out and the checks that were made in order to ensure that both the screening test and the confirmation test were accurate.

His Lordship considered that if that type of information were available in future to prisoners charged with drug test offences then it would rarely be appropriate for a prisoner to permit a relevant laboratory scientist attend for cross-examination.

By way of general guidance, his Lordship stated that the screening certificate should state upon it that the test was only a preliminary test, the level of drugs should be set out on the confirmation certificate and all information given to the prisoner should be in a form that was readily understandable.

Lord Justice Kennedy agreed.

Solicitors: Mr Simon Creighton; Treasury Solicitor.

Debenture over company's book debts created a floating charge

In re Double S Printers Ltd (in liquidation)
Before Mr Justice Jonathan Parker
[Judgment March 26]

Although it was possible for a debenture over a company's book debts to create a fixed rather than a floating charge, it could only do so if the debenture holder had some right of control over the debts in his capacity as chargee and not in some other capacity such as a director of the company.

Mr Justice Jonathan Parker, Vice-Chancellor of the County Palatine of Lancaster, so held sitting in Leeds District Registry, on an appeal by the liquidators of Double S Printers Ltd for directions pursuant to section 112 of the Insolvency Act 1986 as to whether a debenture granted by the company in 1991 to one of its directors, Mr David N. Shuttleworth, created a valid fixed charge over, inter alia, the company's book debts.

The Commissioners of Inland Revenue, preferential creditors of the company, were also respondents to the application.

Mr Glen Davis for the liquidators; Miss Linden Lee for Mr Shuttleworth; Mr Stephen Moverley Smith for the Revenue.

1986 Act, the preferential creditors took priority over Mr Shuttleworth, a director of the company.

"Floating charge" was defined in section 251 of the Act as meaning a charge which, as created, was a floating charge. So the issue was whether at the date when the debenture was granted the charge over the relevant assets was fixed or floating.

Mr Shuttleworth had made loans to the company on the charge of the debenture which secured "by way of fixed charge all book and other debts ... due or owing to the company". In April 1996 the company went into creditors' voluntary liquidation.

It was clear from the authorities that it was legally possible to create a fixed charge over present and future book debts. The question was whether that was the true effect of the debenture in this case.

Mr Shuttleworth's purpose in making the loans had been to keep the company afloat, a process involving the company in getting in book debts and using the proceeds to assist its cash flow rather than, for example, retaining the proceeds in a separate account. Miss Lee rightly conceded that without more the charge over book debts could take effect only as a floating charge, the necessary implication being that the debenture holder was to have no control over the book debts or their proceeds.

But, she submitted that the necessary element of control had been present de facto in that, as a director of the company, Mr Shuttleworth at all times exercised actual control over the book debts and the company's bank account.

The submission was unacceptable. In order for the debenture to take effect as a fixed charge over present and future book debts, there had to be some right of control over the debts or their proceeds, exercisable by Mr Shuttleworth in his capacity as chargee, and not in some other capacity, for example, as a director of the company.

The opportunity for Mr Shuttleworth to exercise de facto control of the company's bank account was nihil ad rem. It might have ceased to be a director during the continuance of the security.

In any event, as a director Mr Shuttleworth was under a fiduciary duty to the company to act bona fide in the interests of the company and not for a collateral purpose such as the maintenance of his rights as chargee.

Despite its description as a fixed charge, the charge over book debts created by the debenture took effect not as a fixed charge but as a floating charge.

Solicitors: Brook North, Leeds; Ford & Warren, Leeds; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Adoption confirmed despite illegality

In re C (a Minor) (Adoption: Legality)
Before Mr Justice Johnson
[Judgment May 12]

Commissioning a home study report to facilitate an adoption application overseas amounted to making an arrangement for the adoption of a child so that both the independent social worker who had prepared the report and the prospective adopter, resident in England, had committed criminal offences in breach of sections 11 and 57 of the Adoption Act 1976.

Mr Justice Johnson so held in the Family Division in a reserved judgment handed down in chambers and reported with leave of the judge when making an adoption order in respect of C, a minor, in favour of the applicant pursuant to section 6 of the Adoption Act 1976.

guardian ad litem; Mr Peter Jackson as amicus curiae.

MR JUSTICE JOHNSON said that the applicant had no children, was separated and had been rejected as a suitable adoptive mother by two local authorities and an independent adoption agency dealing with the placement of children with special needs, on the grounds, inter alia, of health problems and concerns about her limited understanding of the issues involved in adoption.

She had in due course, with the help of an American citizen resident in Guatemala and Guatemalan lawyers, adopted an eight month old baby from that country although she had never been there, nor met anyone in Guatemala involved in the adoption, nor had she seen the baby before he was handed over to her at the airport in Amsterdam.

commissioned a home study report, prepared by an independent social worker, which was misleading in that it did not mention the rejections as a suitable adopter, and failed to address the applicant's ability to understand the issues raised in any adoption list alone an overseas adoption such as this.

Accepting the submission that the commissioning of such a report, within the jurisdiction, amounted to making an agreement or arrangement for facilitating the Guatemalan adoption within the terms of section 72(3) of the 1976 Act, his Lordship said he was satisfied that, by instructing overseas lawyers, providing information and documents, and making payments to them and the author of the home study report, the applicant and the writer of the report had committed criminal offences in breach of both sections 11 and 57 of the 1976 Act.

However, the exercise of the section 6 discretion required consideration of two groups of factors, those relating to the child's welfare and those concerning the adoption process.

It was clear that Parliament had never intended that such unlawful acts should represent an absolute bar to the making of an adoption order although they clearly constituted circumstances which the court was bound to take into account.

Here, although there were considerable concerns about the potential difficulties surrounding the adoption, the professionals involved supported the application in the child's interests, being the least disadvantageous option.

Accordingly the adoption order would be made. Solicitors: White & Sherwin, Croydon; Mrs Angela Reid, Lewes; Donne Milham & Haddock, Brighton; Official Solicitor.

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its nature, a fair hearing could be...
Prisoners should be told about...
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in order to ensure that both the...
screening test and the confirm...
tion test were accurate.

EU awards £5.5m for UK export programme

BY RODNEY HOBSON
THE European Union has awarded £5.5 million to the University of Luton to help to break down the language and cultural barriers that discourage small and medium-sized businesses from exporting.

Hat-hire chain aims to have the country covered

Bernard Silk on a firm that is mixing millinery and the movies



Titanic mission: Felicity Draper, centre, with daughter Jane, right, and staff member Joan Wilkinson

Hats off to the blockbusting movie Titanic - and to Felicity Draper, who has just begun to hire out two lookalike items of headwear from the film. The replicas, which Mrs Draper commissioned and which she reckons are the only ones in Britain, cost about £400 each to make and are being hired out at £50 a time.

believe it may be the biggest such business in Britain. Franchisees - initial investment from £7,000 - get a support package that includes finding a location, raising capital and marketing assistance.

opening over the next six months. There are plans for a stock market flotation, and expansion to Europe, the US and Australia.

make hats for us, which might cost £450 to £500 to buy, but can be hired for £40 to £50.

Forum fears job cuts will follow proposals for employee rights

GOVERNMENT proposals to improve the rights of employees have received a mixed reception from representatives of small businesses.

"Organisations' competitive success depends on securing people's willing contribution to changes in working practices, not their fearful compliance. People will only give their full commitment if they feel respected and valued."

The Institute of Personnel and Development, which represents more than 90,000 personnel professionals, also issues a warning that statutory union recognition could prove "a distracting sideshow" for those struggling to improve flexibility and competitiveness in their organisations.

It wants clear definitions of what constitutes being engaged in security and surveillance and what is included in hospitals and residential institutions.

Company's book charging

But the submission that the company's book charging...
The company's book charging...
The company's book charging...

Wholesalers

Wholesalers...
Wholesalers...
Wholesalers...

A service to match non-executive directors with small and medium businesses has been launched by Business Link.

A service to match non-executive directors with small and medium businesses has been launched by Business Link. Herfordshire in conjunction with Kingston Smith, chartered accountants. Contact Bernard Halliwell on 01727 813813.

Proshare, the organisation that promotes share ownership, has formed a club for companies with fewer than 250 employees.

Proshare, the organisation that promotes share ownership, has formed a club for companies with fewer than 250 employees. The ESSENTIAL club will encourage the introduction and extension of em-

Insolvent small businesses are deeper in debt than at any time for five years, reports the latest survey from the Society of Practitioners of Insolvency.

Insolvent small businesses are deeper in debt than at any time for five years, reports the latest survey from the Society of Practitioners of Insolvency. As a result of the society, which surveyed 2,304 cases, 11 per-

Businesses are being warned by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors against cowboy rates

Businesses are being warned by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors against cowboy rates advisers. The institution has recently dealt with complaints about advisers who undertake to organise a business rating appeal on pre-payment of a fee.

The annual total for invoices dealt with by members of the Factors and Discounters Association passed £50 billion in 1998 for the first time.

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Guidance for businesswomen and those who aim to start up will be given at Wembley on June 19 and 20.

Guidance for businesswomen and those who aim to start up will be given at Wembley on June 19 and 20. The topics will also include career and personal development for career-minded women. Details: 0171-262 3382.

BRIEFINGS
A service to match non-executive directors with small and medium businesses has been launched by Business Link. Herfordshire in conjunction with Kingston Smith, chartered accountants. Contact Bernard Halliwell on 01727 813813.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF MORTGAGE
ON MEMBERS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
COOPER & COY (UK) PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
As part of a re-organisation of the UK Paper Group of Companies the above company has been placed into members' voluntary liquidation on 6 July 1998. This has been done to enable the liquidator to realise the assets of the company, which is now a dormant company, and to distribute the proceeds to the members of the company.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE OF RESOLUTION
The members of the above company have resolved to wind up the company voluntarily. The liquidator has been appointed and will be responsible for the realisation of the assets of the company and the distribution of the proceeds to the members of the company.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THESE SECTIONS PLEASE TELEPHONE 0171-782 7344 OR FAX: 0171-782 827

NEWS

Hague's new team moves right

William Hague shook up his Shadow Cabinet after less than a year and pitched Ann Widdecombe and David Willetts into the key battlegrounds of health and education.

In a fresh attempt to get the long-awaited Tory recovery off the ground, Mr Hague shifted to the right with a substantial reshuffle in which Francis Maude became Shadow Chancellor, Michael Ancram the new Conservative chairman from next October and Peter Lilley, deputy leader.

Fizzy drinks removed from shops

Millions of cans of fizzy drinks and bottles of sparkling mineral water were removed from sale after a chemical that causes cancer was found in the bubbles. Batches of Coca Cola, Pepsi, 7UP, Fanta, Tango, Lit, Sprite, Schweppes Shandy, Malvern and Brecon Carreg water were affected.

Gazza excesses

Glenn Hoddle blamed his decision to omit Paul Gascoigne from the World Cup on the failure of the player to curb his night-time excesses.

Lecturer sacked

A lecturer who admitted setting a nine-year-old A-level question for a degree examination has been sacked for bringing his college into disrepute.

Peace mission

Britain and other permanent members of the Security Council will meet to see what can be done to halt tension between India and Pakistan.

Healthy reading

A new generation of doctors will be qualified in literature studies as well as medicine to help them to learn about morality and suffering, and how to communicate clearly with patients.

Pay trouble warning

Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of Unison, one of Britain's biggest unions, predicted trouble for Labour unless the Chancellor eased restrictions on public sector pay increases.

BSE caution

Officials were preoccupied by the need to avoid alarm, and to protect cattle exports, when they first told ministers of 'mad cow' disease.

Cost of a face

He seemed to have a good face to sell coffee. To the advertising men, Norman Wilson's features said interesting and intellectual. Now Mr Wilson, a market trader, wants to be paid.

Wine scandal

The Bordeaux wine industry was in a state of shock after allegations that one of the most famous vineyards may have doctored its wine using milk, water, acids and inferior wine.

CPS shake-up

A new Director of Public Prosecutions will be in place by the autumn to oversee the most radical shake-up of the Crown Prosecution Service.

Botha in court

The former South African President, P. W. Botha, returned to court to face accusations that he knew of plans to murder opponents and the 'destruction' of anti-apartheid activists.

Surgeon 'infected'

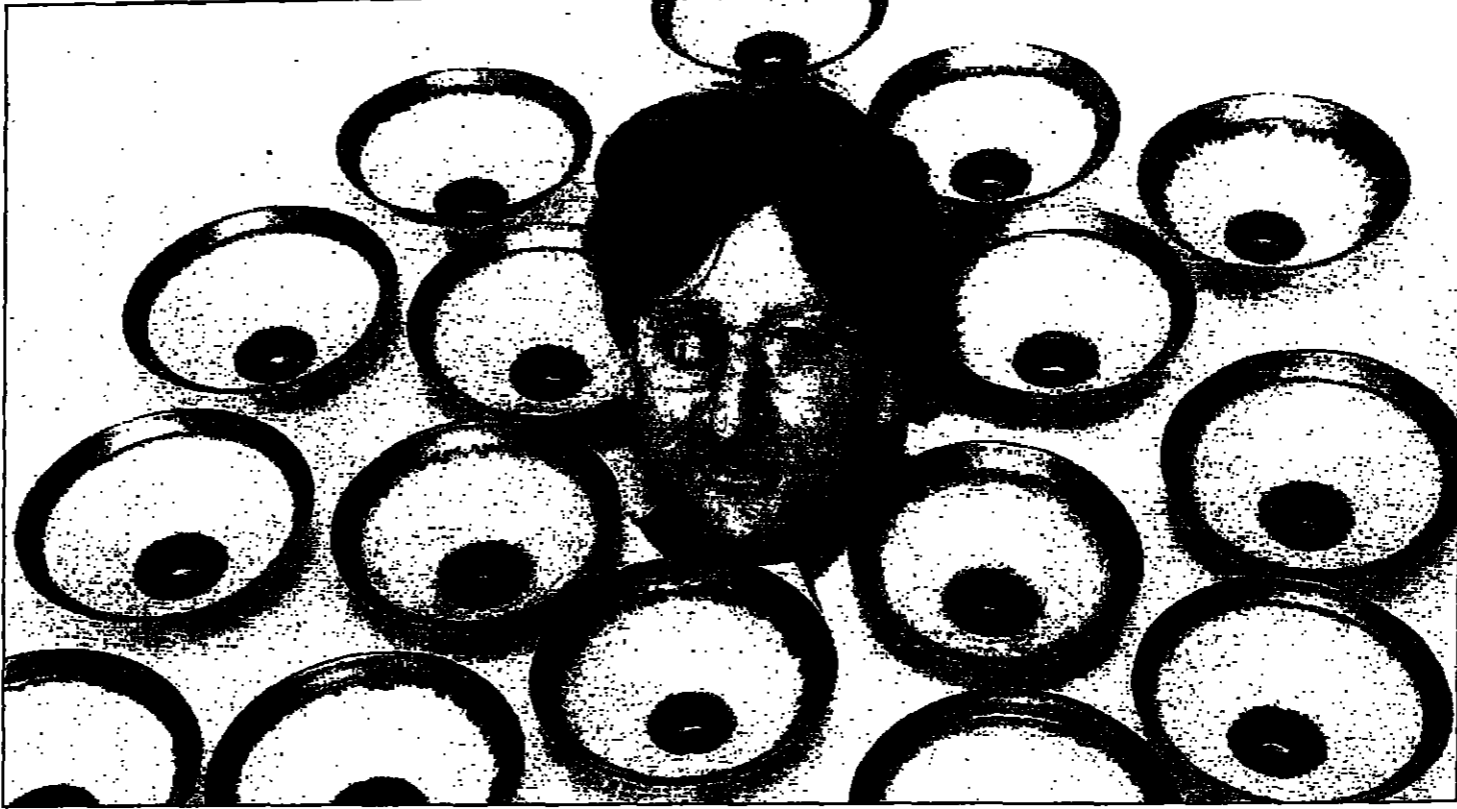
A patient died after a surgeon who knew he had hepatitis B continued operating when a cut on his finger bled into her open wound, the General Medical Council was told.

Nazi gold

Nazi gold directed through the Swiss National Bank helped to pay for vital munitions that supplied Germany near the end of the Second World War.

Fish course starts with a bleep

Scientists are planning a research project to prove that fish can be trained to associate noise with food. Researchers at Stirling University will test the responses of smart fish, such as plaice, Dover sole and flounders, to a bleeper which will go off at feeding time.



Peter Willis, an English potter living in Wales, with bowls he has made for Tony Blair to give to European leaders at the Cardiff summit

Drugs merger: American Home Products who sought a merger with SmithKline Beecham, has opted for a \$100 billion alliance with Monsanto.

Racing: Michael Kinane faces a difficult decision in choosing whether to ride Second Empire or King Of Kings, both strongly fancied horses, in the Derby on Saturday.

Making Andy: A comprehensive exhibition at the Barbican reveals how Andy Warhol crafted his own image as meticulously as he did his art.

Medical problems: 'I felt so mistreated by male colleagues I had to resign'. A woman's story from the medical profession.

Nikko investment: Nikko Securities and Travelers Group, the US financial conglomerate, have forged the most extensive alliance so far between American and Japanese financial institutions.

Rugby League: Gary Connolly, the Wigan Warriors and Great Britain centre, has said that he will play for Ireland in the home nations series in the autumn.

Only in Tennessee: At the Nottingham Playhouse the veteran stage designer Ralph Koltai directs Tennessee Williams's play about paedophilia, Sudden Last Summer.

Flab Four: Two months after the arrival of the Teletubbies on US television, talking versions are on sale.

Mirror target: Television companies are free to bid for Mirror Group, because its total national newspaper circulation has fallen below a critical threshold.

Football: Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, explained his decision to omit Paul Gascoigne from the World Cup, saying the player was not fit enough.

Gypsy session: Sally Burgess says a sizzling Carmen in English National Opera's revival of the Bizet opera.

Cover-up: Hat-hire chain wants to cover the country.

Up for the Cup: Hire television sets for all departments or use the law to threaten a crackdown? Employers worry about workrates during the World Cup.

The Pakistani bomb is the be all and end all of Pakistani life. The bomb was exploded because it had to be exploded. And if the crippling effects of sanctions meant suspending the right to life and liberty of the ordinary citizen, so be it. In India, by contrast, the bomb has been debated in Parliament, on TV and on the streets. There will be life after the bomb in India.

Interface: All the fun of the techno-fair: the latest in computer games.

Homes: Where the dead live: the mausoleums of the great estates are being restored.



Libby Purves: So good luck, Geri Ginger-Spice. Get out there, Bourish or fail, and teach all those impressionable little girls that life is for living, that vitality means change, and that nobody hangs out with the same four people for life.

Derwent May: The United States is changing and I think for the better. The liberals are becoming less sentimental - while, conversely, the conservatives are softening.

John Morris: The Crown Prosecution Service will now have a clear and sensible direction, after the publication of Sir Iain Glidewell's report.

Peter Riddell: Opposition reshuffles never cause many ripples. The public only really takes notice when a party looks like coming to power, which the Tories do not do.

Sir David Huddie, engineer and Rolls-Royce executive; Jacob Katz, professor of Jewish history; Lana Morris, actress.

NHS hospitals; naming alleged sex offenders; nuclear proliferation; minimum wage; parking tickets; kind judges; ageism.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,807

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down sections.

- ACROSS
1 Girl imitates kangaroo in place down under (5,7).
9 Live with king near Biblical place here in Israel (9).
10 Money prayed for on a daily basis (5).
11 What's passed by pupil makes an impression here (6).
12 Extremely old wise man, going out of style (5-3).
13 A new compact for part of Ireland (6).
15 A member of one uses it on course (4,4).
18 In the last resort, why report is secret (8).
19 Strike outside to stop supply (3,3).
21 Opponent of war, provided one's bound by treaty (8).
23 Supplier of farnace right next to pottery centre (6).

Solution to Puzzle No 20806. A grid of letters with some words highlighted in bold.

Latest Road and Weather conditions

Table with columns for UK Weather - All regions, UK Roads - All regions, and various weather codes.

Weather by Fax

Table listing phone numbers for weather forecasts by region: Wales, Midlands, N.Wales, N.East, Scotland, and Meteo Fax.

World City Weather

Table listing weather conditions for 153 destinations worldwide.

Motoring

Table listing motoring services and contact numbers for various countries.

AA Car reports by fax

Table listing AA car reports and contact numbers.

Forecast

General: heavy overnight rain in S England will clear to leave sunny spells and showers. Wales and N England will have thundery rain. Scotland will be cool.

Forecast

General: heavy overnight rain in S England will clear to leave sunny spells and showers. Wales and N England will have thundery rain. Scotland will be cool.

Forecast

Table with columns for Sun, Rain, and Max/Min temperatures for various cities and regions.

Weather map of the British Isles showing high and low pressure systems, fronts, and wind directions. Includes a table of high tides and a table of today's weather for various locations.

Newspapers Support Recycling logo and text.

Perfect Day advertisement for music stores, featuring the Scoot 0800 192192 logo and contact information.

THE TIMES

2

INSIDE SECTION
2
TODAY



BUSINESS
Storm in a tea cup brewing over cost of a cuppa
PAGE 31



LAW
The dilemma of watching World Cup football
PAGES 35-39



ARTS
How Andy Warhol tackled a lifelong subject: himself
PAGES 41-43

THE GREAT WORLD CUP DEBATE
SPORT
45-52

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY JUNE 2 1998

Monsanto and AHP to merge in \$100bn deal

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN Home Products, the US pharmaceuticals group that sought a merger with SmithKline Beecham earlier this year, has instead opted for a \$100 billion (£60 billion) alliance with Monsanto, the agricultural sciences group.

Earlier this year SmithKline had agreed to merge with AHP but later dropped the deal to pursue a merger with Glaxo Wellcome. That deal fell apart when executives failed to agree who would lead the combined group.

Mr Shapiro said: "It's going to work fine. We know each other very well. The business logic of these things is so exciting that it's going to keep us both working hard and energised."

FOCUS FALLS ON MODIFIED R&D

The deal will create a company with annual sales of \$23 billion with diverse interests including pharmaceuticals, over-the-counter medicines and agrochemicals. Monsanto is a pioneer in genetically engineering crops and plants to improve their yield or make them harder.

Monsanto, dubbed the Microsoft of biotechnology, is the world's largest agricultural R&D firm (Matthew Barbour writes). It focuses on agrochemical and genetic engineering in plants, in particular potatoes and soy beans. Soya modified by Monsanto so that it can be sprayed with weedkiller makes up 15 per cent of beans imported into Britain and goes into 60 per cent of processed food.

AHP is best known for Advil, the painkiller, and the Redux slimming drug that it had to withdraw from the market last year.

AHP and Monsanto said their merger was triggered by intense competitive pressures to expand and fund new research operations for drugs development. John Stafford, the AHP chairman and chief executive, said: "It is becoming more and more costly to take advantage of the new technologies, the new biology, that is available in both the medical and agricultural field."

Mr Stafford, who was ill last year, will be co-chairman and co-CEO of the new group, sharing power with Robert Shapiro, chairman and chief executive of Monsanto.

Monsanto is developing a new type of painkiller that does not irritate the stomach. Regulatory approval for the drug is expected for the end of the year. Monsanto already has a marketing agreement with Pfizer, the maker of the Viagra impotence pill, to sell the new painkiller.

AHP is effectively buying Monsanto for \$34 billion, matching its current market value. Monsanto agreed to forego a premium in return for power-sharing.

Mr Stafford, who was ill last year, will be co-chairman and co-CEO of the new group, sharing power with Robert Shapiro, chairman and chief executive of Monsanto.

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Looking east: Sandy Weill and Masahi Kaneko announce Travelers' £965 million tie-up with Nikko Securities

Travelers forges Nikko alliance

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

JAPAN'S Nikko Securities and Travelers Group, the US financial conglomerate, yesterday announced the most extensive alliance forged so far between American and Japanese financial institutions.

Travelers is to invest 220 billion yen (about £965 million) for a 25 per cent stake in Japan's third-largest brokerage.

Nikko and Salomon Smith Barney, Travelers' securities subsidiary, will jointly invest 140 billion yen to set up a securities company. The joint venture, which will be 51 per cent owned by Nikko and 49 per cent by Salomon Smith Barney, is scheduled to start operations at the beginning of next year, and focus on corporate and institutional business.

Nikko is set to reduce his stake in the £385 million Canary Riverside hotel development in London's Docklands from 50 per cent to 30 per cent. The Singaporean Government is keen to increase its stake to 50 per cent. The Metropolitan enjoys average room rates of £230 against projections of £180 — and is seeing occupancies in the high-80s. The hotel includes Nobu, the Japanese restaurant in which Robert De Niro, the actor, has a stake. The Halkin is owned by Mr Ong's wife, Christina, who owns the UK franchise to Armani, Prada, Guess and Donna Karan.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES	
FTSE 100	5837.9 (-32.8)
Yield	2.87%
FTSE All share	2763.65 (-12.73)
Nikkei	15321.03 (-348.75)
New York	
Dow Jones	8968.46 (+68.51)*
S&P Composite	1096.31 (+5.49)*
US RATE	
Federal Funds	5 1/4% (5 1/4%)
Long Bond	104 1/8% (104 1/8%)
Yield	5.80% (5.80%)
LONDON MONEY	
3-mth Interbank	7 1/4% (7 1/4%)
Life long bid	
Future (Jun)	109 1/2% (109 1/2%)
STERLING	
New York	1.6387* (1.6310)
London	
DM	1.6372 (1.6307)
FF	2.3146 (2.3072)
FF	9.7727 (9.7561)
SFr	2.4192 (2.4111)
Yen	228.59 (228.96)
S Index	104.0 (103.6)
DOLLAR	
London	
DM	1.7785* (1.7880)
FF	5.9645* (5.9900)
SFr	1.4758* (1.4831)
Yen	138.50* (138.78)
S Index	111.8 (111.6)
Tokyo close Yen 139.15	
NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent 15-day (Aug)	\$14.35 (\$14.65)
GOLD	
London close	\$288.75 (\$283.55)
* denotes midday trading price	

Channel Islands to get EU tax boost

By RICHARD MILES
THE Channel Islands are set to benefit from a £100 billion outflow of funds from the Continent as a result of European Union efforts to harmonise the tax regime for offshore savings.

GRE buys US firm for \$1.15bn

GUARDIAN Royal Exchange, the UK composite insurer, is buying the US property and casualty (P&C) operations of ING, the Dutch financial services group, for \$1.15 billion (£700 million). As part of the deal ING is buying GRE's Canadian operations for \$375 million (Marianne Curphey writes). John Robins, GRE's chief executive, said the acquisition would nearly quadruple its regional US P&C premium income and produce annual cost savings of £50 million by the year 2000.

Circulation fall leaves Mirror open to TV bid

By RAYMOND SNOODY
MEDIA EDITOR



TELEVISION companies are free to bid for Mirror Group, because its total national newspaper circulation has fallen below a critical threshold imposed by the Government.

Montgomery: could buy
says a national newspaper group with more than 20 per cent of national sales could only own 20 per cent of a terrestrial broadcaster. In April the Mirror Group was just above the threshold but its performance in May, it is believed, took it to 19.6 per cent.

Paulson on board at Goldman

GOLDMAN SACHS has appointed a co-executive chairman who once worked in the Nixon White House for a jailed Watergate aide (Oliver August writes). Henry "Hank" Paulson, the investment bank's president and chief operating officer, will share responsibilities with Jon Corzine, the chief executive and chairman. The appointment is seen as a preparation for a \$24 billion flotation.

Ong turns down bids for hotels

By JON ASHWORTH
ONG BENG SENG, the Singaporean billionaire, has received a number of unsolicited offers for the fashionable Metropolitan hotel in London, but rejected them as too low.

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SCOOT 0800 192 19

Large gas discovery in Pakistan

Premier Oil and Monument Oil and Gas have made a significant gas discovery in Pakistan. The partners, in joint venture with BHP, have discovered a 320 metre gas column in the Zamzama-1 well.

Neither company would reveal estimates of reserves but Charles Jamieson, chief executive of Premier, described the initial well test results as "extremely encouraging". Premier Oil and Monument each have 23.75 per cent of the licence with BHP owning 47.5 per cent. The Pakistan Government has the right to increase its 5 per cent stake to 25 per cent during development.

Charges cut

Homeowners Friendly Society has reduced charges and simplified its products after the Government's announcement of a benchmark for financial services — the Catmark. The standard requires financial organisations to provide low costs, easy access and good terms.

Sercos US buy

Sercos, the business support services group, is to buy JL Associates for £7.7 million. JL, based in Virginia, provides support services to federal, state and local governments as well as to private industry. In 1997 JL's gross profit was \$969,000 (£600,000).

Lord Brocket

In our report about the takeover of the Knoydard estate on April 17, we reported that the late Lord Brocket, grandfather of the current Lord Brocket, was imprisoned for Nazi sympathies. This was not correct.

Bank chief attacks regulators as super-watchdog is launched

By RICHARD MILES
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE chief executive of one of the City's top investment banks yesterday launched an attack on financial regulators, claiming there were no incentives for a firm to own up to its failings.

Hans de Gier, chief executive of SBC Warburg Dillon Read, said regulators must not only be fair, but also be seen to be fair. However, UK regulators failed this test on two counts, he claimed.

Mr de Gier, addressing a conference to mark the formal launch of the Financial Services Authority, the super-watchdog, said UK regulators had failed to give a clear definition of their expectations of firms. "The second element is that of fair treatment," he said.

"The disciplinary process will, I suggest, only be both fair and seen to be fair when it is clear to the industry that firms who disclose problems [to the regulators] and who take prompt remedial action are not automatically subject to lengthy, and eventually publicised, disciplinary action."

He said it was important to establish a relationship of trust between the City authorities and firms, a relationship that would give some credit to financial institutions which owned up to their failings. "I know that this is something which is acknowledged by the regulators, but my point here is that they must do more than acknowledge the concerns."

His remarks come amid general unease among City firms about the treatment of four former Morgan Grenfell Asset Management directors

by Imro, which regulates the fund management industry. The directors, who received suspensions of up to three years, complained that the costs of challenging Imro's rulings were so prohibitive as to deny natural justice.

Earlier, Howard Davies, executive chairman of the FSA, said greater co-operation between European regulators was necessary for a number of reasons, including the wave of financial sector mergers rolling across the Continent and European monetary union.

"One has to note that there is no pan-European forum in which regulators of banking, securities and insurance markets can come together. If you accept the hypothesis that these markets are beginning to interlock and interact in new and complex ways, then that looks to be an increasingly serious gap," he said.

The FSA yesterday took over the supervision of banks from the Bank of England, but will probably have to wait until the millennium for its full powers. In the meantime, it will co-ordinate the activities of nine existing regulators.

Staff to benefit in £64m bid for Mainline

By FRASER NELSON

A BUS PAINTER, aged 64, is poised to be the largest single beneficiary of FirstGroup's £63.9 million takeover bid for Mainline, the largest bus company in South Yorkshire.

Geoff Perry, who has been with the company for 40 years, stands to gain £32,000 from selling his 5,000 shares to FirstGroup — more than any of Mainline's eight directors.

South Yorkshire Council will also receive £14 million from giving up its right to claw back profits from Mainline, granted when the company was privatised for £1 million four years ago.

More than 2,300 bus drivers, mechanics and managers each stand to gain a windfall of about £10,000 each if they accept the offer from FirstGroup, which already has a 20 per cent stake. However, the company has given warning that it will cut many staff if its bid succeeds. Heavy job cuts in Glasgow,

where FirstGroup is fighting a price war with rival Stagecoach, cost about £5 million in the year to March 31. However, acquisitions helped pre-tax profits to an overall £72.5 million (£51 million).

Profits from its newly-assembled rail division shot from £1.8 million to £9.3 million — in spite of a sharp fall in punctuality levels.

Brian Scott, the head of its Great Western franchise, yesterday said he is leaving for "personal reasons", three months after being made a millionaire by selling his stake in the company.

Its core bus division made operating profits of £93.2 million (£78.2 million). Its 51 per cent stake in Bristol Airport, bought six months ago, generated £400,000.

Headline earnings were 19.7p (17.7p). A dividend of 4.4p, due on August 28, makes a total of 6.6p, up from 5.5p.

Tempus, page 30



IS IT A UFO? No, a conservatory roof frame by Ultraframe, which raised half-year pre-tax profits 86 per cent to £6.9 million. David Moore,

deputy managing director, is pictured left with Don Greenhalgh, chairman, and Ian Robinson, managing director. Tempus, page 30

Start-ups get £100m funds boost

By ALASDAIR MURRAY
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

GORDON BROWN is expected to unveil today a £100 million boost for hi-tech start-up companies with the launch of two venture capital funds.

The Chancellor, who will be speaking at a European conference on venture capital in London, is determined to improve the EU's record in creating businesses and has targeted venture capital to increase support to fledgling companies.

The new money, which has been raised from private sector organisations across Europe, will be made available to new business ventures in the UK regions.

The UK has the most developed venture capital sector in Europe but lags behind the US in supporting start-ups.

Britain attracts about 44 per cent of all venture capital investment in Europe, but only around a third of this money is invested in start-ups, as opposed to management buyouts. The Treasury says the City supplies £1.6 billion of start-up capital each year.

Commentary, page 29

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Wainhomes recovery continues apace

WAINHOMES, the housebuilder, has continued on its path to recovery with a 66 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £11.1 million from £6.7 million in the year to April 3. The company, which two years ago issued severe profits warnings, dismissed its chief executive and said police were investigating "financial irregularities", lifted earnings 70 per cent to 12.1p a share from 7.1p. Turnover rose modestly to £109.9 million from £105.6 million. A second interim dividend of 3.75p per share brings the total dividend for the year to 5.25p (4.75p), payable on July 10. The shares rose 3½p to 138½p.

Bill Ainscough, the chief executive, founder and 30 per cent shareholder who has masterminded the turnaround, attributed the improved results to tighter control from the centre and investment in more upmarket locations including the Cotswolds and Henley. Mr Ainscough is stepping up to become executive chairman, enabling the departure of Gavin Reed, the current chairman.

RBS still ready to buy

THE Royal Bank of Scotland still wants to buy a mutual building society or one that has recently floated in the wake of its failure to secure a deal with Birmingham Midshires. The bank's £630 million offer for Midshires has been trumped by a potential £780 million bid from the Halifax. Midshires is expected to announce today that it has paid £15 million to the RBS to break the deal and allow it to accept an overture from the Halifax, although it said there was no guarantee it would accept a bid.

Home prices rise 0.3%

PROPERTY prices rose by 0.3 per cent in May, compared with 0.8 per cent the previous month, the Halifax monthly housing index said. Gary Marsh, the bank's assistant general manager, said: "This is very healthy for the man in the street. Prices are rising very steadily, broadly in line with average earnings." The annual rise is now 5 per cent, down from 5.6 per cent last month. The average house price is £71,486. First-time buyers paid an average £52,373.

Baldwins new float plan

RICHARD, Stanley and Sandra Baldwin, and other members of the Baldwin family will be worth more than £20 million if their second attempt to float off the family crane company goes ahead at the intended price during July. Baldwins Industrial Services plans to float again after shelving an attempt in February 1996. Advisers are looking for a market capitalisation of £30 million to £35 million as the family cuts its holding from 100 per cent to 70 per cent.

Sims back in black

SIMS FOOD GROUP, which was hit hard by the BSE crisis, reported that it should be able to return to the dividend list soon. The company, which closed its Premier Meat Packers plant in March and sold its retail red meat business last year, could not afford to pay any dividend for the year to March 31. During the year it made a pre-tax profit of £1.69 million compared with a loss of £27.5 million a year earlier. Earnings per share of 3.9p compare with a loss per share of 81.3p.

Settlement aids Raglan

RAGLAN PROPERTIES raised pre-tax profits from £2.1 million to £6.1 million in the year to end March on sales barely changed at £34.4 million. Raglan, however, enjoyed a £2.5 million gain from a legal settlement and a rise in profits on the sale of property from £35,000 to £2 million. Earnings rose from 1.40p to 3.27p and the dividend will rise from 1.1p to 1.3p. Raglan shares rose from 26p to 28½p. The group says it has £46.7 million of cash from disposals available for investment.

Columbus set to grow

COLUMBUS, the publishing group, raised pre-tax profits by 47 per cent to £3 million in the year to the end of March on sales up from £21.7 million to £25.5 million. Earnings rose to 1.25p (0.78p) and the full-year dividend rises to 0.59p (0.37p). Nigel Barklem, the chairman, said: "We are targeting further significant growth. The business is ideally positioned to build organically upon its strong base and to accelerate its acquisition programme." Shares rose 2½p to 23½p.

TOURIST RATES

Bank	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.75	2.57
Austria Sch	21.82	19.88
Belgium Fr	65.30	58.34
Canada \$	2.508	2.390
Cyprus Cyp£	0.501	0.580
Denmark Kr	11.70	10.61
Finland Mk	9.42	8.67
France Fr	10.26	9.47
Germany Dm	3.08	2.84
Greece Dr	523	484
Hong Kong \$	13.52	12.36
Iceland	1.29	1.09
Ireland P	1.21	1.12
Israel Sh	6.36	5.71
Italy Lit	2050	1873
Japan Yen	243.17	225.64
Malta	0.675	0.610
Netherlands Gld	3.478	3.183
New Zealand \$	3.24	3.00
Norway Kr	12.93	11.88
Portugal Esc	311.13	285.10
S Africa R	6.22	5.89
Spain Ptas	229.20	248.41
Sweden Kr	13.62	12.52
Switzerland Fr	2.57	2.35
Turkey Lira	404.88	400.70
USA \$	1.744	1.601

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Drop in sterling fails to help manufacturing

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

BRITAIN'S manufacturers suffered a further fall in activity in May with little evidence that the recent decline in the pound is providing any relief.

The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply monthly manufacturing survey recorded its second consecutive fall in manufacturing activity, suggesting the sector remains mired in recession. The markets, however, ignored the weak data to push the pound to a three-week high of

DM2.9235, before slipping in late trading to finish at DM2.9152.

The CIPS survey showed a further decline in new orders with the index at its lowest level since November 1995. Export orders also fell, although the pace of decline was slightly less rapid than in April. Inflation, however, remains subdued with input prices continuing to fall sharply.

The Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England begins its monthly meeting tomorrow, but it is not expected to alter interest rates.

Carlton applies for early licence renewal

By RAYMOND SNODDY

CARLTON Communications yesterday applied for early renewal of all three of its ITV licences — including Central, the company that bid only £2,000 a year to retain its franchise.

A total of 11 ITV licensees expressed formal interest in early renewal to the Independent Television Commission in the hope that the overall amount they have to pay to the Government will be reduced. The ITC will decide what each individual ITV licence is now worth.

Carlton pays £116 million a year to the Government in special ITV taxes. It pays £78 million a year for its London franchise and a total of £30 million plus £2,000 for Central, its Midland franchise, and £8 million for Westcountry.

Carlton is almost certainly simply trying to find out how the ITC now values Central. If it does not like the valuation it can decide to hold on to its old licence and apply for a renewal in two years' time when the impact of digital television could be greater.

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SS ROUNDUP

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Doubts grow over merger mania



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

John Stafford, the boss of American Home Products, did not take long to recover from the indignity of being jilted by SmithKline Beecham and find himself another partner. The urge to merge can be difficult to resist when stock markets have convinced themselves that big is better and executives have rafts of share options to their names.

Yet even in a market obsessed with size, AHP's swap of affection from SB to Monsanto has left some feeling slightly uneasy. It may be that the deal provides a solution to one of John Stafford's major pre-occupations, that of who should succeed him at AHP, but headhunters' fees cannot have reached such a level that the costs and upheavals of a near-£100 billion merger is seen as a viable alternative.

The companies do have product ranges which are, in part, complementary. Within its portfolio AHP already has the unappetising combination of baby milk and agricultural chemicals, so extending further into the delights of chemicals that can be engineered into seeds could be deemed a logical move. But because it is a move in such a different direction to that in which SmithKline Beecham would have taken it, the deal does heighten qualms over the current bout of merger mania.

Corporate financiers can be forgiven for encouraging their clients to get together. The fees now are welcome and changing

circumstances may mean that, before very long, there will be demergers to be done and another set of fees earned.

But companies appear to be questioning in their acceptance of the argument that they must band together, enduring all the costs and upheavals that can entail. Sir Richard Sykes admits that punting Glaxo together with Wellcome was agonising, absorbing vast amounts of management time, energy and morale. The results made that worthwhile. For reasons which are still slightly cloudy, when he looked more closely at the planned mega-deal with SmithKline Beecham, he began to get edgy. Jan Leschly of SB still believes that that deal would have created a fantastically strong business for the next century. Now he has lost the chance of going back to AHP with a proposal.

The financial services sector, where the urge to merge has been even more virulent than among the pharmaceutical stocks, shows no sign of settling down. The period of calm that has descended over London's clearing banks could soon be shattered as the move to create pan-European finance houses

impacts. Despite the turmoil in the Far East, and the effect that could have on international finances, stock markets in the United States and the UK seem happy to bet on ever-increasing opportunities for the giants they want to create. Disappointments seem inevitable.

High hopes for high-tech firms

Today we will learn more of Chancellor Gordon Brown's plans for coming to the aid of financially challenged high-tech entrepreneurs. It is to be hoped that the advance publicity is accurate and that the Chancellor's intention is merely to offer encouragement rather than hard cash. If there truly is an equity gap, the Government that throws public money at it will simply see the pennies vanish into the chasm. Those who doubt it should

recall the story of Inmos, a tale to wreak tears from the hardest souls in the City. It had its roots in a previous Labour Government's conviction that the equity gap did exist, that entrepreneurs were being prevented from turning bright ideas into thriving companies because of the wicked financiers' refusal to back them. The response was to establish the National Enterprise Board, an organisation whose very name embodies the hopelessness of its ambitions.

Inmos was the NEB-sponsored vehicle for turning a great British idea into a world-beating product. Its "transputer", a computer on a chip, was ahead of its time and, properly developed and exploited, might have made Inmos a star of the high-tech revolution. Instead, Inmos was a financial disaster, sucking up public money and eventually, after a change of government and a brief, unhappy spell in the hands of Thorn EMI, being

taken over by a French/Italian joint venture which closed the plants.

It is not the job of government to run businesses nor to decide which are worthy of backing with our money. Gordon Brown appears to have accepted this, rather than resurrecting the NEB, it seems that he is intent on persuading the private sector to channel more funds into backing new, high-tech businesses. Presumably, there will be special tax breaks proffered to encourage them along this route.

But could it be that it is the exciting investment opportunities rather than the funds to back them which are lacking? The venture capital industry is awash with money and the reason that so much of it is piling into backing management buy-outs is not necessarily because the investors are wary of high-tech start-ups. One need only look at the wonderful world of biotech to see that investors will

put up cash on the strength of a promising future rather than an existing product.

There may be an army of would-be entrepreneurs out there whose ideas are rusting for lack of finance. But if that is the case, the £100 million the Chancellor has lined up is hardly going to fund an industrial revolution.

A Goldman opportunity

Like Britain's stockbrokers and estate agents in the 1980s, and building society customers in the 1990s, the 200 partners in Goldman Sachs now have the opportunity to cash in on the past and mortgage the future. The prospect of £50 million windfalls must be attractive to those voting — and their tax advisers — but will it be good for the firm?

At the moment, Goldman's unique selling proposition to any potential hotshots is "if you do well you can become a partner, and that will give you riches beyond the dreams of avarice". This allows Goldman to keep more of the people it wants than rivals, such as Morgan Stanley

and Merrill Lynch, without virtually having to bankrupt the company to pay them. Without this USP, Goldman is just a big investment bank, at the whim of fickle shareholders who will pressurise it for short-term performance, maybe at the expense of its long-term goals.

Goldman partners might reflect on what happened to the City's stockbrokers. The partners took the cash offered by merchant, clearing and American banks. Some retired to the Algarve; others carried on, but had to be paid the same as they were before the takeovers. Their new owners found they kept having to pay for something they had already bought, and that financial lunacy spelt the end for the likes of Simon & Coates, Scrimgeour Kemp Gec and Kitkat & Aiken. But who thinks of the firm's future when offered a "once in a lifetime" windfall?

Traffic jam

THE Rolls-Royce enthusiasts who like their cars so much they want to buy the company are fast running out of time to find a backer for their ambitions. If Rolls-Royce pic is reluctant to allow Volkswagen to claim the famous marquee, how much more reluctant it will be to hand it over to mere motorists. But if the fans promise to trump VW, they may succeed in further delaying Vickers' long-planned sale of the business.

Emap looks to America for expansion

By Raymond Snoddy, Media Editor

EMAP, the magazine, exhibition and radio group, wants to expand in America as part of a drive to become more international.

Kevin Hand, who becomes group chief executive next month, said: "In the next four or five years America is going to play a part in Emap's future." The company, which already operates in France and to a lesser extent in Germany and Australia has, however, already turned down a number of opportunities in the US because they were considered too costly.

The new emphasis on international expansion came yesterday as the group announced a 17 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £141.7 million in the year to March 31, excluding the effect of exceptional items from previous years.

The company gave warning, however, that after benefiting from a strong economy in the UK, particularly in the first half, there were now signs that the market was slowing down.

Robin Miller, who becomes chairman of Emap next month, said this would be offset by the "most encouraging period" in its five years in the French magazine market.

Emap, which successfully launched Red, the "middle youth" magazine for women in its last financial year, said yesterday it planned to spend more than £20 million on launches this year.

A final dividend of 10.5p makes a total of 15p, a rise of 15 per cent. Emap shares fell 12½p to £12.80½.

Times, page 30

Hillsdown issues trade update

HILLSDOWN HOLDINGS, the food, furniture and housebuilding group, sought to calm investors' nerves yesterday by issuing a trading update (Robert Cole writes).

Hillsdown said management accounts show operating profits for the first four months of 1998 "are broadly in line" with those for a similar period in 1997.

The company was responding to doubts cast on the health of its business following the collapse of takeover talks with Unigate, the dairy group. On Friday Unigate said it walked away from the £1.6 billion deal after seeing Hillsdown's current accounts.

Kier may bid £13.5m for Bellwinch

IN THE latest of a series of mergers among the construction industry's smaller players, Bellwinch, the South of England housebuilder, is facing a potential £13.5 million bid from Kier Group.

Kier, the construction minor now formerly owned by Hanson, announced that it was considering making the offer after it bought 23.6 per cent of Bellwinch's share capital from the Eagle Investment Trust at 29p a share, 4p above Friday's trading price of 25p.

The offer, if made, is likely to value the company at 30p a share, payable in cash with a partial share alternative. Kier's market value is £64 million.

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Holders of ordinary shares ("Shareholders") of 25p each in the Company ("Shares") are hereby invited to tender their Shares for purchase by Cazoveo & Co. ("Cazoveo"). All Shares purchased pursuant to the Tender Offer will be purchased at the same price (the "Strike Price"). The Company is obliged to acquire from Cazoveo the Shares acquired by Cazoveo pursuant to the Tender Offer at the Strike Price.

A circular (the "Circular") is being posted by the Company to Shareholders, together with a tender form, which details fully the terms and conditions of the Tender Offer. The Circular contains a notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday 25th June, 1998 to consider, if thought fit, pass a special resolution to authorise the Company to repurchase the Shares purchased by Cazoveo pursuant to the Tender Offer. Cazoveo will not accept tenders under the Tender Offer unless the special resolution is passed.

Shareholders may elect to tender their Shares at a single price or at different prices within the available range. The minimum price is 120 pence per Share and the maximum price is 160 pence per Share. The Tender Offer is being made in respect of a maximum of 6,153,846 Shares for up to £8 million.

All tenders in relation to the Tender Offer must be made on a tender form, copies of which are being posted to Shareholders with the Circular and which are available from Exchange Registrars Limited, 18 Park Place, Cardiff CF1 3PD. A Shareholder's tender will be irrevocable.

The Tender Offer will be void if less than 5% of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company in aggregate is tendered.

The Tender Offer closes at 3.00 p.m. on Friday, 26th June, 1998, unless extended in accordance with its terms. The outcome of the Tender Offer will be announced by no later than 8.30 a.m. on the business day following the close of the Tender Offer.

Shareholders holding Shares in uncertificated form which are purchased pursuant to the Tender Offer will be paid by means of CREST by Cazoveo in favour of the Shareholder's creation of an assured payment obligation in favour of the Shareholder's payment bank not later than 5 business days after the date on which the outcome of the Tender Offer is announced. Shareholders holding Shares in certificated form which are purchased pursuant to the Tender Offer will be paid by cheque to be dispatched not later than 5 business days after the date on which the outcome of the Tender Offer is announced.

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Bill poses threat to mutual associations

THE BUSINESS OF POLITICS



ALASDAIR MURRAY

Former ministers do not normally forsake oak-panelled boardrooms and haute cuisine lunches for engine oil and service station fry-ups. So it comes as some surprise to find that Stephen Norris, the former Transport Minister, has chosen not to follow his Tory colleagues into some decorative position in the City but to head the distinctly unglamorous Road Haulage Association.

For Mr Norris, however, it was a natural move, reflecting his motor trade roots and a personal preference for working with the small-time entrepreneur. As Mr Norris proudly admits, he is the only transport minister in history who genuinely can tell one end of a lorry from another.

Cynics might argue that Mr Norris's move to the RHA was an attempt to cash in on his years of experience in the Department of Transport. On the face of it, trade associations appear to inhabit the same murky territory as lobbyists. They are the go-between of big business

and government, a world where you know can seemingly make all the difference. Mr Norris, however, is adamant that in Whitehall contacts count for nothing and that ministers do not leave Parliament brandishing a little black book. The Civil Service runs a "conkscrew" rotation system, ensuring that most staff from Mr Norris's own time in government have already moved on. As far as he is concerned, former politicians can add value only through their knowledge of the political process and command of the arguments.

Governments as a rule like trade associations. They provide a focus for dialogue with business and a useful sounding board for government policy. Despite the obvious parallels with lobby companies, the plurality of voices within a trade association ensure they are less vulnerable to accusations that they are acting in an anti-competitive fashion than a single heavyweight company. As Mr Norris puts it, trade associations are one of those institu-

tions that would have to be invented if they did not already exist. The ability of the associations to fulfil this role, however, appears to be under threat on two fronts. The sheer range of issues that associations have to tackle has increased the potential for internal dissent. In-terests are far more coherent in their membership than the larger business organisations such as the CBI and the British Chambers of Commerce, but there is still often a wide gulf between the views and interests of large plc members and one-man run small businesses.

It is the broader issues that are likely to prove most disruptive. Economic policy and European economic and monetary union are often as controversial within a trade association as

they are to the public at large. Smaller members of the British Steel Association have not been too pleased with British Steel's use of its muscle to attack the Government's policy on sterling. They feel this has tarnished the industry with accusations of "whingeing" over the strong pound and detracted from efforts to deal with the problem by other measures such as improving productivity. The single currency debate is likely to prove even more divisive and some associations are going to find it difficult to frame a policy that will not alienate a substantial portion of their membership.

While the single currency debate is likely to rumble on for the next few years, the associations are also facing up to a more immediate threat in the

form of the Competition Bill that is working its way through the House of Commons. Trade associations generate only part of their income from membership fees relying on sales of services to plug gaps in their budgets. Associations are, in effect, one of the last bastions of mutuality, using their purchasing power to benefit members.

The Competition Bill could, however, undermine the ability of associations to generate this extra income. There are concerns that a trade association service offer, such as cheap insurance, will be interpreted as monopolistic behaviour and enable a disgruntled competitor to force an OFT referral. The Association of Consulting Engineers has similarly highlighted that the Bill could undermine an association's ability to offer legal advice to members. ACE is worried that it will lose its right to negotiate on behalf of its members over particularly onerous contracts and issue non-binding "health warnings" where it believes member companies may face problems. The

association is sponsoring three amendments to the Bill that are due to be presented at committee stage. But it is not certain whether the offending clauses will be altered.

The Government needs to think carefully over the Bill's implications for the future of trade associations. It would be ironic if, having only recently moved to increase protection for the remaining building societies, it helped to dissolve one of the largest remaining mutual sectors. The associations not only alert government to members' problems, but provide a channel of communication for government policy to industry. The Treasury is embarking on a campaign to improve productivity in British business. Trade associations should provide a vital link, sharing best practice across a sector and helping small businesses to make the most of developments such as new technology. As Mr Norris intimates, it would be counterproductive to restrict trade associations when the Government needs them more than ever.

MARKET LEADER

Sponsors fall victim to the ambushers

You know what it is like. You spend a fortune on a holiday in the sun but when you arrive at your swanky hotel you find that all the nice loungers have already been taken. To add insult to injury you discover that the lounge thieves are not staying at your hotel, but slipped in because the deal you struck with the tour company did not give you exclusive use of the loungers.

That is essentially what has been happening to sponsors of major sporting events since sponsorship started in earnest in the 1970s. The art of getting your product in a more prominent spot at a major sporting event than the product of the actual sponsor even has a name - ambush marketing. And over the next few weeks, as World Cup fever rises, the ambushers will be out in force.

The skill of ambush marketing is to make your product synonymous with the event without actually being the sponsor. Companies like Mars, Hewlett Packard, Coca-Cola and McDonald's have spent as much as £20 million each to be "the official snackfood" or soft drink or whatever of the 1998 World Cup. There are also official snackfood or soft drink suppliers to many of the national sporting federations and there are also individual players signed up to endorse products.

For example, Coca-Cola is the official World Cup soft drink but for England fans, Alan Shearer's deal with Lucozade might have a bit more resonance. Similarly, the England team is running into all sorts of problems trying to stop companies ambushing its official sponsorship deals by signing rival deals with star players. One example is the giant campaign run by Adidas that has signed David Beckham, England's latest glamour boy. Though there is no mention of England or Manchester United, his club, in the campaign, Adidas is an arch rival of Umbro, which sponsors United and has just agreed a £50 million deal to sponsor the England team kit.

Past examples of the ambusher's art include Sony's sponsorship of the ITV coverage of the Rugby World

Cup - which made most people think it was the main sponsor of the event. Pepsi's superb campaign during the Cricket World Cup in India that signed up leading players and used the slogan "Nothing official about it" and, of course, Nike at the Atlanta Olympics in 1996.

Sponsors of the Olympics pay \$40 million (£24 million) and all they get is use of the five rings. Nike paid nothing, but set up its Nike Village only a few feet from the official Olympic sponsors' village, bought up all the poster sites in Atlanta and some of the best competitors, notably Michael Johnson and his gold shoes. And that is the abiding marketing memory of Atlanta.

When Starcom Media Services asked American TV viewers who the official sponsors of the games were, only McDonald's scored higher than Nike, which was mentioned by 73 per cent of viewers. Some official sponsors - notably Visa, Kodak and Delta Airlines - saw their "awareness" rating among consumers fall after the Olympics.

The Atlanta experience has put the sponsors on their guard. Early signs are that the sponsors are spending vast amounts to make sure we know how official they are. The rule of thumb is that for every pound spent on a sponsorship, another pound should be spent supporting it, through TV, press and poster advertising, media sponsorship, direct marketing, competitions or corporate hospitality.

Meanwhile ISL, the Swiss company that markets the World Cup, is actually trying to stop other people using the words "World Cup" because of ambushing. This is being resisted by just about everyone, from the Rugby Football Union and the International Cricket Board to local pub chains.

Nevertheless the ambushers are already appearing. Ones to look out for are Peperami, with its World Cup mascot, Tango, with its promotion to win a sofa and a meat pie for armchair viewers, Boddingtons, with its World Cup beer festival, and Nescafé, which is sponsoring outside broadcasts of England and Scotland games. Expect more in the coming weeks.



JASON NISSE

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Storm in a tea cup brewing as price trend unsettles market

British cuppa safe for now as margins soak up cost pressure, says Robert Cole



The recent privatisation of Sri Lanka's tea plantations is expected to bring improved efficiency and higher crop yields

The global market in tea, which until this time last year was so stable that it could almost be called dormant, is in convulsions. Prices of tea shipped in bulk have risen 25 per cent in the past three weeks and, while the cost of a cuppa looks safe enough for the moment, the trend, from the consumer's point of view, is going the wrong way.

In absolute terms, the raw material ingredient in the national drink has not moved much for decades. Once inflation is taken into account the "real terms" cost of tea has actually fallen. Until recently, that is.

Already buffeted in the past 12 months by droughts, and then floods, in Kenya more tea turbulence has come as a result of the crisis in Indonesia. Auctions of local tea have been suspended in Indonesia, and the disruption of supply has prompted the price of a kilogramme of tea traded elsewhere to rise from about \$1.40 (\$5p) to about \$1.75 (£1.07).

Indonesia is the world's fifth-largest tea producer. Though it accounts for only about 5 per cent of world output compared with 30 per cent and 23 per cent for India and China respectively, as an exporter Indonesia is a much more significant player than its share of world production suggests. This is because home consumption soaks up most production from India and China while the Indonesians are not great tea sippers.

Kenya and Sri Lanka are still some way ahead of Indonesia as exporters, but as with so many markets in commodities it only takes a relatively small shift in the anatomy of supply and demand to create waves.

Hopes are that the Indonesian auctions may restart soon, possibly as early as this week. Tea traders in this country, however, are unsure of the near-term prospects. Richard Muir, chairman of James Finlay, the only pure tea company quoted on the London Stock Exchange, said: "I find it difficult to discover what is or is not happening in Indonesia. Ports, banking and such like have certainly been disrupted, but away from the cities - in the rural tea growing regions - things may be calmer. Then again maybe they have been upset by lack of oil or something."

Mr Muir is not even sure that Indonesia is responsible for the recent price spike. But he cannot think of any other reason. However, Colin Kingsnorth, the investment manager of the country's only tea investment trust - Tea Plantations Investment Trust - is more sure of Indonesia's culpability. Indonesia is the latest

source of excitement in the tea market after a year that has seen more than the usual amount of activity. More fundamental change in the world dynamics of supply and demand have also been brewing. "The economics of tea have changed for the first time in 20 years," said Mr Kingsnorth.

For so long nothing

this country comes from Kenya and prices of tea auctioned in Mombassa provide the key benchmarks. A drought in Kenya in the middle of last year caused a severe shortage and the price of tea auctioned in Mombassa shot up. Then floods struck and the main tea road from the plantations to Mombassa was washed away. The ubiquitous El Niño phe-

It is the width of the difference between commodity price and shelf price that means that the price of a cuppa is insulated, at least for the time being. Tea sold on supermarket shelves changes hands for ten times the price paid at the Mombassa auctions. Shippers and packers - ever under pressure from the cost-conscious grocers such as Tesco and J Sainsbury - take the heat in narrowed profit margins.

It is not, however, short-term meteorological and political events that are changing the tea market in the fundamental ways referred to by Mr Kingsnorth of Tea Plantations Investment Trust. For as long as these type of short-term influences continue to hold sway, the cost of a cuppa may remain unchanged too. But bigger shifts are taking place, on both the supply and the demand sides on the equation, that may have different results.

Firstly, on the supply side,

6 The tea trade has suffered from a musty old post-colonial image

changed, apart, perhaps, from the shape and design of tea-bags. But that marketing whizzery had little impact on tea production. In fact, the very appearance of circular, and now pyramid-shaped tea-bags, underlined the fact that the tea market was so static. The tea industry, bereft of any real action, had to make some up.

Most of the tea consumed in

nomen, was blamed and the price of a kilogram of Mombassa tea rose to \$2.60. After the road was repaired, however, supply swung back the other way. The disruption to the distribution artery enabled growers to build up crop stock that then swilled onto the world market. By April the price was back to \$1.40, before Indonesia set values flaring again.

The tea trade has long suffered from a musty old post-colonial image. That is true on the commodity side of the industry and, for all the teabag geometry, at the consumer's end of the chain where the marketing of tea is still commanded by the flat-pack and shop-steward imagery of Sidney and the other Smurf-like characters created to advertise Tetley tea.

But times, and tea, are a-changing.

Talk time

JUDITH MAYHEW, chairman of the policy and resources committee at the Corporation of London, kicked off a round of interviews for the new chief executive of the London Development Partnership yesterday. Sir Colin Marshall, of British Airways, is chairman, which almost makes it worthwhile voting for Richard Branson for mayor and watching the fun. Almost. Anyway, unconfirmed rumour has it that one of the favourites for the chief executive

job is Eric Sorensen, the chap who walked out of the Millennium Commission earlier this year. As a former chief executive of the London Docklands Development Corporation he would, I suppose, be a natural.

Then it was on to the Docklands Light Railway for Mayhew, to the lunch to launch the new Financial Services Authority. The Corporation paid for the do, on the 50th floor of the Canary Wharf Tower. At least the venue was free. It would have been galling indeed for the Corporation to have to write out a cheque to Canary Wharf, especially as the guests had already laid out £524 apiece, which, as there were 600 of them, is £300,000 in anyone's money.



Marshall: holds key City post

THE AA is understandably keen to make as much capital as possible over the troubles of the rival RAC, even if the war of words between them has sometimes descended to playground level. But it might be tactful to withdraw the current advertising campaign from the AA, which is a clear dig at the RAC. "The AA," it says, "Owned by its members. Run for its members." Except that, as we learnt at last week's annual meeting, a substantial proportion of members believe that the AA is run like a "self-perpetuating oligarchy".



Floating fallout

A FALLING OUT at Panmure Gordon over the flotation of Goldshield Group, the Croydon pharmaceutical marketing company, Ronald Openshaw, from Panmure's corporate finance department, says his colleague Robin Gilbert. Panmure's senior drugs analyst, has got it wrong. A note written by Gilbert as part of the preparations for the float suggested that Goldshield's modest research spending was a device to avoid the full impact of price controls on pharmaceuticals sold to the NHS. This is terribly important and has prompted questions about price capping at ev-

ery meeting Goldshield has had with potential investors. Openshaw insists this is not right. One can imagine the conversations that have been taking place over the Chinese Wall, because a bashful Gilbert now admits the offending paragraph is "not as helpful as it might have been". He says it went uncorrected when he showed his report to Goldshield. "The company were not as specific as they might have been," he says. Curious. So the client didn't mind but the corporate finance department did.

BILL GATES has run into a bit of an impasse in his battle with the US Justice Department over the anti-trust action against Microsoft. Gates says the Department's case makes no sense because anyone who has used his Windows operating system will realise that you can easily run a Microsoft rival's software on it. Just one problem. Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, does not have a computer. She couldn't tell an Internet browser from a broomstick.

Of all the staff...

COMMERZBANK is about half way to its target of creating a 200-strong operation in London to fill all nine floors of the old Société Générale building in Gracechurch Street. The latest hiring is another of those BZW staff disaffected after the CSFB take-

over, joining Mark Eban who himself made the same crossing a few weeks ago to become the bank's head of global equities. Carol Barazzone becomes global head of syndicate, charged with parcelling out the fresh equity raised by clients.

This is pretty well the last senior appointment at Commerzbank, I am told. Barazzone organised the party for the BZW syndicate team in March at Momo's, that overrated Moroccan restaurant off Regent Street, to mark the CSFB sale. The evening had a Casablanca theme. Now it is off for the start of another beautiful friendship...

MARTIN WALLER



Reno: does not have a computer

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust prices, organized by fund type and name. Includes columns for fund name, price, and other financial metrics.

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Vertical text on the right edge of the page, possibly a page number or additional publication information.

Equities lower in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Company	Price	% Chg	PE
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

44	100	Alco Group	111	0	14.8
45	100	Bevco	100	0	14.8
46	100	Bevco	100	0	14.8
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BANKS

100	100	Bank of America	27.12	0	12.11
101	100	Bank of America	27.12	0	12.11
102	100	Bank of America	27.12	0	12.11
103	100	Bank of America	27.12	0	12.11
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119	100	Bank of America	27.12	0	12.11
120	100	Bank of America	27.12	0	12.11

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

121	100	Bevco	100	0	14.8
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IP/IT TO £75,000
This highly regarded magic circle firm is offering IP/IT lawyers with 1-6 years' ppe an exciting opportunity to deal with a mix of high profile contentious and non-contentious matters. Prospects for career advancement are superb as is the salary and benefits package. (Ref:23097)

INTL PROJECTS E US RATES
This leading US firm has one of the leading project finance practices in the world. Its well established London office is heavily involved in both the commercial and financing aspects of international projects and is a focal point for the firm's European dealings. A fantastic opportunity for first rate corporate and finance lawyers to join a tier one practice. (Ref:22171)

INSOLVENCY TO £60,000
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COMM PROPERTY TO £65,000
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ASSET FINANCE TO £55,000
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ENERGY TO £60,000
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PENSIONS TO £50,000
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FUNDS TO £85,000
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CONSTRUCTION TO £80,000
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INSOLVENCY TO £45,000
While this top 20 City firm is big enough to be a major player in insolvency, it is also small enough for a quality non-contentious specialist with 2-3 years' ppe to be noticed in a practice well-known for advancing lawyers on merit. An insurance background would help you stand out even more. Ref: T37895

PENSIONS TO £40,000
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INSOLVENCY/BANKING LITIGATION TO £54,000
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GENERAL BANKING/FINANCE TO £58,000
Recent merger activity has made this top 10 City firm a major success story, and its continued expansion means it now needs a 2-5 years qualified general banking lawyer, ideally with experience of property and acquisition finance. You will share in the firm's success through reputation and pay. Ref: T15598

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LAW

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How can employers win when the World Cup is exciting the country?



Watching a game in the supporters' club. But many employees will want to view the World Cup on television at work

Offside in the office

With the World Cup only days away and football fever about to grip the nation, spare a thought for employers facing the prospect of a month-long fall in productivity.

While the fans will be exhorting their football heroes to up their workrate in the name of patriotism, it is obvious that the world's premier sporting event can have a disastrous effect on a country's output. Remember the collective depression that gripped the nation the day after England's semi-final defeat by Germany during Euro 96?

True, many a multinational can expect to see its profits soar because of lucrative sponsorship deals. But thousands of companies with no financial stake in the contest will be watching anxiously as their employees look for every opportunity — legal or illegal — to get away to watch the afternoon games on television.

This is a particularly sore point for British employers because so many of the games involving the two participating home countries will be taking place partly during office hours. Scotland, for instance, kick off the tournament — against the world champions Brazil — next Wednesday at 4.30pm, and England's first game the following

Companies can beat the worst effects of World Cup fever among staff, says Sarah Lamont

Monday will start at 1.30pm.

But what can an employer do if he or she finds that staff offer increasingly absurd excuses for leaving early or try to stretch their lunch hour until mid-afternoon? Can the boss, when he suspects that a foul has been committed, dismiss an employee for World Cup fever?

The most brazen red card offence recognised by English employment law is absenteeism: "throwing a sickie" or, more commonly, nipping out for a couple of hours, or knocking off early. Yellow card offences include following the national team's fortunes via telephone hotlines, the Internet, or the radio. The 1996 Employment Rights Act gives misconduct as one of five potentially fair reasons for dismissing an employee. Whether it is fair to dismiss depends on how reasonable the decision was.

"Clocking", or leaving the workplace without permission and recording hours that have not been worked, is well recognised as serious or "gross" misconduct which can, in certain

circumstances, justify instant dismissal. In the 1978 case of *Stewart v Western SMT Co Ltd*, the Employment Appeal Tribunal (EAT) upheld an industrial tribunal's decision that Western was justified in dismissing a driver who left work well before the end of his shift on three occasions.

Locking and similar acts of dishonesty are generally viewed by tribunals as gross misconduct because they undermine the relationship of trust and confidence that must exist between employer and employee. As a rule of thumb, the more senior an employee is and the greater the trust placed in them by the employer, the more readily a tribunal will find that a breach of company rules amounts to gross misconduct.

This principle is exemplified by the 1992 EAT case of *United Distillers v Conlin*. Mr Conlin repaired barrels for United Distillers and was dismissed when, on two occasions in five months, he resubmitted a defective barrel for

testing without having repaired it. Though EAT valued the offences at only £3 each, it stated that United Distillers was justified in dismissing Mr Conlin on the basis that it had to be able to trust him to carry out his work diligently.

What amounts to gross misconduct in one workplace, however, might not do so in another. The simple act of telephoning a World Cup hotline to find out the latest score may elicit merely a smile of complicity from an employer in one firm while leading to dismissal for a switchboard operator in one of the emergency services.

On a more positive note, employers could use the World Cup to build teamwork among their staff. Providing a TV on which they can, say, watch the second half of those games starting at 4.30pm which they would otherwise miss on their way home might lead to an increase in productivity in the build-up to the match. Alternatively, they might consider introducing flexitime on a temporary basis.

An outbreak of World Cup fever need not leave the employer feeling as sick as a parrot.

The author is head of the employment law department at Veale Washbrough, a firm of Bristol solicitors.

Churches granted unwise safeguard

Religious principles are based on sincere beliefs for which there is neither a rational basis nor empirical evidence. The legislative process demands stricter standards of scrutiny. On May 20, during the first day of the committee stage of the Human Rights Bill in the House of Commons, the Government made an unwise concession to religious concerns which are no more capable of withstanding objective analysis than the Turin Shroud.

The Bill gives effect in domestic law to the United Kingdom's international obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights. In the House of Lords in February, the Government was defeated by opposition and backbench peers who inserted a number of defences and qualifications into the Bill because of their concern that the legislation might otherwise force churches to engage in acts contrary to their religious principles.

The amendments were neither necessary nor appropriate. There are four reasons for this.

First, because the Human Rights Act will operate to the considerable benefit of religious bodies since one of the rights it guarantees is freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

Secondly, the Act will have no effect at all on the conduct of churches as private bodies. As Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, explained on May 20, the Act will not regulate matters such as divine worship and admission to the priesthood. Where a religious body acts as a public authority on behalf of the State, for example in relation to marriage, then (as the Home Secretary accepted) victims should have a remedy as they would against any other public authority which acts in breach of the rights established by the convention.

Thirdly, where churches do act on behalf of the State, the convention has not hitherto been applied by the European Commission and Court of Human Rights to force religious organisations to carry out acts contrary to religious principle. As Donald Dewar, the Secretary of State for Scotland, pointed out on May 20, since the convention was ratified in 1953 "the fabric of our religious freedoms has not crumbled". There is no reason to fear that English courts will apply the convention in any different manner in the future. There is no legal basis for alarmist suggestions that the convention will impose duties on churches to marry homosexuals or employ atheists.

Fourthly, to the extent that the Act makes special provision for religious bodies and so alters (for the purpose of domestic law) the

content of rights under the convention, it fails to achieve its objective of giving domestic effect to the convention. Such amendments are, in any event, pointless because any victim may (after exhausting domestic remedies) bring a claim against the United Kingdom before the European Court of Human Rights.

Recognising the force of all these points, the Government has persuaded the House of Commons to remove the amendments included by the House of Lords. But the Government has thought fit to accommodate church concerns by introducing into the Bill a new Clause 9. This states that if a court's determination of any question arising under the Act might affect the exercise by a religious organisation (or its members) of the convention right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, the court must have "particular regard" to the importance of that right. The Home Secretary explained that the aim of the provision is to ensure that the churches "have protection consistent with the convention" but not to provide any exemption from the convention.

Clause 9 has no logical or legal justification. It is an unprincipled sop to those who support the House of Lords amendments because of misguided concern about the impact of the convention. To tell courts to have "particular regard" to Article 9 rights is either superfluous (judges would not be performing their duties if they failed to have due regard to such rights where relevant, or potentially misleading (it may wrongly lead people to believe that churches are being given a special defence when they would otherwise breach convention rights). The most that can be said for Clause 9 is that — properly interpreted — it will have no substantive effect.

The Gospel according to Matthew contains the wise advice that we should "render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's". The Human Rights Bill is a worthy attempt by Caesar's successors in government to ensure that there are effective domestic remedies for abuses of power by all public authorities. The churches should have been told that special treatment for them was neither necessary nor appropriate, and that Parliament legislates by reference to rational analysis and not dogma.



COUNSEL
DAVID PANNICK QC

The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. He is the editor, with Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC, of Human Rights Law and Practice, a comprehensive guide to the Human Rights Act and the European Convention, to be published by Butterworths in October.

Presenting my sweet Lord Irvine

ANYONE at the Royal Academy summer banquet last week would have noticed the new-style Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg cracked several jokes at his own expense, including a reference to his image as a "wicked baron" in a lorry seizing priceless works of art from gallery walls. No wonder, he added, that 14 security guards followed him to the table.

Now was it true that next year's academy banquet would be held at his own residence because he had more paintings than the gallery?

Who is responsible for this new Lord Irvine? Step forward Garry Hart, his policy adviser who has been working hard to persuade Lord Irvine that rather than write letters to newspaper editors, he will do better to make a joke out of his Cardinal Wolsey image or his paintings.

Mr Hart may well turn out to be a more crucial spin-doctor than Alastair Campbell.

YOUNG barristers worried about their future under the Government's legal reforms are likely to turn out in force this Thursday at an open meeting for the Young Bar (Middle Temple hall, 5.30pm). Speakers include Daniel Brennan, QC, Guy Mansfield, QC, and Hillary Heilbron, QC.

Meeting of minds
THREE of London's best-known matrimonial lawyers from Collyer-Bristow are leav-

INNS AND OUTS

ing to start their own family law firm. Jeremy Levison, Claire Meltzer and Simon Pigott are setting up Levison Meltzer Pigott in Holborn from June 1.

Work can only boom: Ms Meltzer mentions the rights of unmarried partners, pre-nuptial agreements and splitting of pensions. The Family Law Act will also be in force by 2000

and for 75 per cent of divorcing couples, it will take longer than now to end marriages.

Year of the rat
THE Yorkshire firm, Last Cawthra Feather, is celebrating a media coup.

Sir Bernard Ingham, has agreed to be a columnist on its quarterly newsletter. At Last, But his first column, a review

Brothers elevated

Rodney and Warwick McKinnon: from a judicial family

TWO BROTHERS were sworn in as circuit judges last month, thought to be the first time siblings have been appointed to the circuit bench on the same day. The promotion of Rodney and Warwick McKinnon, who were both barristers practising at the Criminal Bar, makes a hat trick in the family — Stuart, their older brother, is Mr Justice McKinnon, who sits in the High Court.

All three brothers come from judicial stock. Their father, who also produced three daughters, was the late Neil McKinnon, a judge at the Old Bailey.

Rodney McKinnon, 55, is in chambers at 2 Pump Court. He was called to the Bar in 1967 and became an assistant recorder in 1991 and a recorder in March 1996.

Warwick, 50, is at Hollis Whiteman chambers. He was called to the Bar in 1970. Like his brother, he was authorised to sit as an assistant recorder in 1991. He became a recorder in January 1995. Both brothers will sit on the South Eastern Circuit.

of Labour's first year, reveals little specialist legal knowledge.

"For the first time in 30 years," thunders Margaret Thatcher's former press secretary, "those politically correct social engineers who have done so much to wreck our education, welfare and criminal justice systems, have nowhere else to go. In fighting every Tory reform effort, they then enjoyed success and support from Labour. Now in office, Mr Blair, Mr Straw and Mr Blunkett have ratted on them. It is crucial they stay ratting."

No wonder the Lord Chancellor is recruiting 40 more policy staff to his department. In response to a parliamentary question, Lord Irvine's deputy, Geoff Hoon, has revealed that since the election the department has issued no fewer than 27 consultation papers on various proposed reforms and rule changes. This deluge has generated an equally impressive number of responses for the department to process — just under 6,000.

Born to be bigger?
SPECULATION is rife about whether Slaughter and May plans a big expansion in work. What else will it be doing with its proposed new purpose-built development in ECI, which will allow the whole firm to go in under one roof instead of its present four buildings? The new building is 260,000 sq ft — about 20 per cent more than now.

Jonathan Haw, a partner, says that no such conclusions can be drawn and that the space will quickly be occupied. "We are doubling up on offices a good deal at present," he explains, "and — unlike some competitors — we seek to avoid that."

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For further information in complete confidence please contact Debbie Offenbach or Lisa Owens on 0171 523 3822 (0918) evenings/evenings, please write to ZMB Industry, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY.



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Asset Finance Frankfurt

A leading name in this field, our client currently requires an additional banking lawyer with asset finance and/or leasing experience to work in its successful Frankfurt office.

Company Commercial/Finance Cayman Islands

We currently have a number of instructions from firms in the Cayman Islands who are seeking lawyers with experience in any of the fields of general corporate, banking, capital markets, derivatives, structured finance or commercial law.

EC/Competition Brussels

This top 10 City firm currently has a requirement for a lawyer with 2-4 years post qualification experience gained with a leading practice to undertake EC/competition work in Brussels.

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Offshore Private Client/Trusts Bahamas

This prominent private bank seeks a lawyer with at least 2 years experience in trusts/offshore work to join its offshore operation in the Bahamas.

UK Banking Lawyer Paris

This leading multi-national corporate seeks an experienced banking lawyer as its UK counsel in Paris. This is an autonomous role in which you will be expected to advise on a broad spectrum of banking related matters.

Legal Counsel Berks or Dublin

This hugely successful US multinational is looking to hire an additional lawyer to join a front-line European legal team. You should have between 3 and 6 years general corporate and commercial experience and can be based in either Dublin or Berkshire.

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support and co-ordinate external attorneys in various patent-related matters throughout Europe.

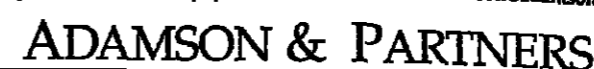
A European Patent Attorney or equivalent who is fluent in English, you must possess an outstanding academic record with a first degree in Biology or Chemistry, ideally with an advanced degree, in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology or equivalent.

The Baxter/Immuno business in Europe now requires a high calibre European Patent Attorney to support its continuing growth and expansion in leading edge biopharmaceutical products.

You will also be responsible for providing intellectual property services to the Immuno businesses in Europe, on a full range of patent-related matters, working closely with scientists, engineers, legal counsel, commercial colleagues and management.

This is an exceptional opportunity offering excellent prospects for long-term career development with one of the world's leading medical products corporations, totally committed to professional and sophisticated Patent policies.

If you are interested, please telephone Stuart Adamson FCA or Graham Marlow on +44 (0) 113 245 1212 or forward your comprehensive CV in confidence, quoting ref: 6060 to Adamson & Partners Limited, 10 Labson Square, Leeds LS1 4LY.



INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE SEARCH & SELECTION

SHIPPING LITIGATION 2-5 Years' PQ/E

This leading maritime firm has 45 partners in its City HQ and other offices around the globe. You needn't be from a dedicated shipping background, as the firm will consider technically able insurance or commercial litigators, but you will have first-rate academic to add up for this specialist practice area.

PRIVATE CLIENT/RESIDENTIAL CONVEYANCING 4-7 Years' PQ/E

Acting for high net worth individuals in the Private Client dept. of this City practice, you will be competing in a range of conveyancing matters and willing to provide assistance on other work within the group including trusts and estates.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY 7-8 Years' PQ/E

This top City firm has got it right - the quality of its work goes without saying, but it also has one of the most friendly and supportive environments and hence a very low turnover of lawyers. It now seeks to add to its property department due to burgeoning work involving high profile clients.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION 1-3 Years' PQ/E

If you are a charismatic litigator from a top City, firm and don't want to make a sideways move, join the London office of one of the largest US firms which is genuinely different and is going places. The litigation team of 5 specialists in heavyweight international litigation, arbitration and fraud and is headed by leading lights in the field who are a pleasure to work with.

EU/COMPETITION LITIGATION 3-4 Years' PQ/E

The international strength of this firm has meant that its specialist EU/competition department is extremely well thought of, both for competition and regulatory work. Known for its broad-based practice, the firm's reputation for handling IP and telecoms issues is particularly strong.

PLANNING 0-3 Years' PQ/E

Pre-eminence planning practice in City, with particular strength in the retail sector, seeks a junior solicitor to handle high-level, cutting-edge planning work of unparalleled quality. This very busy department has over 15 lawyers and is headed by numerous leaders in the field.

ENTERTAINMENT City

Department consists of 5 partners, 2 consultants and 14 other fee-earners. Recent transactions include: Film, all UK production matters for an \$300m film based on a cult TV series; TV, acting on the first UK commission by a US Cable Channel; Theatre acting on behalf of several large West End producers.

HEAD OF COMPANY COMMERCIAL Negotiable

This Central London law firm has increased not only the size of its client base and number of fee-earners, but its reputation amongst its competitors significantly over the course of the last three years. They now wish to internally hire a Cozen Partner with proven leadership skills who can work closely with the Managing Partner to help the Commercial Division sustain the group fulfil its ambition to have 50 lawyers within five years.

INSURANCE LITIGATION - HONG KONG 3-4 Years' PQ/E

The Hong Kong office of this noted litigation firm is seeking two assistants (2-4 PQ/E) to join its 5 partner and 15 associate team. Your caseload will include insurance/commercial litigation and professional indemnity work.

US SECURITIES (NEW YORK/LONDON) 0-3 Years' PQ/E

The demand for lawyers with US securities experience remains very high in both New York and London. In the last 2 months we have placed 3 junior securities lawyers with our clients (all leading US firms) who continue to be in high demand for common-law educated practitioners.

TELECOMS/REGULATORY AFFAIRS - NORTH LONDON 5 Years+ PQ/E

Dynamic telecoms company consolidating their recent strong growth requires REGULATORY AFFAIRS MANAGERS to deliver strategic analysis of regulatory issues vital to the company's continued success.

BROADCASTING - GENERAL LONDON 7 Years+ PQ/E

Broadcasting lawyer with previous 'in-house' experience required for senior management position within dynamic television company. Advising Controllers, pre-post transmission advice and working on a range of agreements and rights associated with programming.

IP LAWYERS - ALL LEVELS London/Bledding

Major pharmaceutical company investing £1.2 billion in R&D per year requires lawyers with excellent patent and trademark experience to join the rebound but thriving team. Leading US software house seeks a patent lawyer with approx. 5 years PQ/E to handle all patent issues and liaise with the US. Salary is highly competitive and comes with the usual benefits package.

IP LAWYERS - OUTSOURCING London/Home Counties

I have several positions with 5 major IT companies (IT Consultancy/software) at all levels from NQ-7 years PQ/E. They need lawyers to assist with outsourcing and to liaise with both sales force and senior management. Those with good IT experience (or 2k, EMI), software licensing, FM Agreements) and commercial contracts should apply.

COMMERCIAL LAWYER - IN-HOUSE Peterborough

A young lawyer is sought by a subsidiary of a household name company for the newly created role of Legal Services Manager. The position will largely revolve around the drafting and negotiation of a wide range of agreements with partners, suppliers and customers but will also involve providing more general legal support.

PRINCIPAL FINANCE - INVESTMENT BANKS City

An increasing number of major banks/securities houses are now using their own balance sheets to fund asset purchases, restructure asset pools and provide capital support to third parties in the development of asset origination. The multidisciplinary Principal Finance teams they have set up always have room for 3-10 year qualified corporate/securities lawyers who want to be on the front line and are definitely commercial animals.



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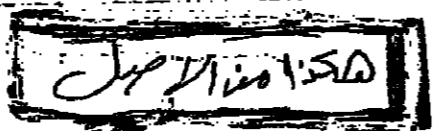
The successful candidate will be a qualified lawyer with between 2 and 5 years post qualification experience with an appreciation of the fund management industry and experience of dealing with regulators.

Please write to Neil Effe at BBM Selection, 76 Watling Street, London EC4M 9BJ quoting reference 484, enclosing a full Curriculum Vitae that includes contact numbers. All applications will be handled in the strictest confidence.

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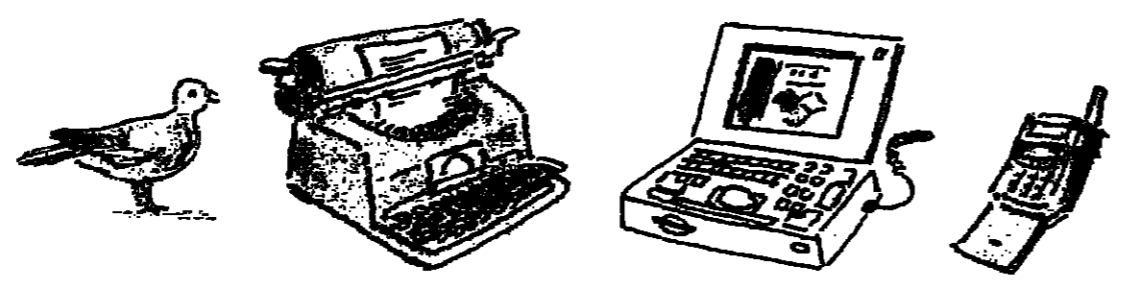
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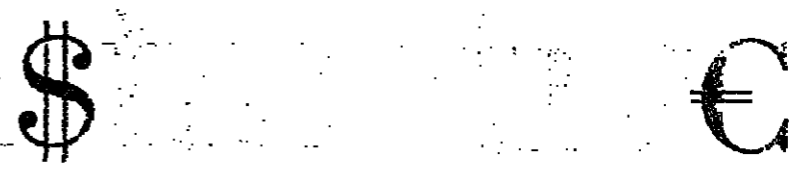
For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Stephen Rodday or Michelle McGregor on 0171 405 6082 (0171 782 0475 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD Legal. Confidential fax 0171 831 6384.

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European Investment House
General In-house Counsel
Opportunities for company/commercial lawyers to move into an investment bank in a general role are comparatively rare. Our client, a well-known European house has just such an opportunity for a 3-5 year qualified company/commercial lawyer who wants to move in-house and undertake a very varied role. The position will encompass a broad range of commercial contractual work, some corporate matters and employment law, working within an established and well respected department. Whilst relevant experience and a strong desire to work in-house are naturally of prime importance, a down-to-earth personality is prerequisite.

US Investment Bank
Commercial Role
Our client is a premier US house, one of the world's leading investment banking firms with a network of offices across the globe. A position has arisen for a junior lawyer (6 months to 2 years' ppe) to join a specialist team which is integrated within the trading desks. Opportunities are rarely seen where lawyers are expected to take such an active part in the deal process. The team transacts equity derivatives work and comprises first-class lawyers from the best firms. Prior product knowledge is not necessary, as the team would prefer to train up suitable candidates.

Asset Management
Senior Counsel
This asset management house is part of one of the largest and most dynamic financial services groups in the world. The London operation seeks a senior lawyer to take up an appointment as sole legal counsel. This position would encompass an active role dealing with structuring and setting up off-shore funds, investment management documentation and credit arrangements. In addition, the successful candidate would have broad responsibility for corporate, company secretarial and contractual agreements, liaising with group personnel across the globe. Suitable candidates will have 5+ years' ppe and some directly relevant experience.

Chambers Banking & Finance recruit lawyers into banks and other financial institutions. For further information or for career advice, please ring Deborah Krieman or Stuart Morton on 0171 806 8844. Confidentiality is assured.

EU c.0-3 years' ppe
Dynamic and consistently successful City firm seeks talented assistants wishing to advance career in high-ranking EU team.
Ref: 25277

Co/Co Partnership Opp
Progressive "niche" practice can offer immediate partnership to experienced co/co specialist with commercial and leadership skills.
Ref: 40416

Corporate Tax c.0-3 years' ppe
Leading City firm, with "premier league" tax practice, requires central but commercial assistants to handle highest-quality matters.
Ref: 33967

Corp Finance c.3-5 years' ppe
One of the City's most admired "boutique" corporate practices requires experienced assistant to handle top-quality transactions.
Ref: 33845

Construction c.0-2 years' ppe
Renowned construction practice seeks junior litigator to develop specialisation; if already qualified, must have construction experience.
Ref: 3795

Comm Lit c.1-4 years' ppe
Eminent and thriving litigation + "practice requires talented litigators wanting the best quality of work and not to be in a rut."
Ref: 29232

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The postholder will sit in the Summary Court of the Cayman Islands and will occasionally perform the functions of Coroner. The appointment will be made by His Excellency The Governor in accordance with the Summary Jurisdiction Law (Law 10 of 1975). The postholder will also sit in The Youth Court which exercises jurisdiction over offenders under 17 years of age in accordance with the Youth Justice Law.

The salary attached to the post is C\$568,280 per annum tax free (CIS1 = US\$1.20). In addition a Contracted Officer's Supplement of 15% is paid monthly with salary. Benefits include air passages, baggage allowances and medical/dental care. The initial term of appointment is for three years.

Application forms and general information may be obtained from:

Cayman Islands Government Office
6 Arlington Street, London SW1A 1RE
Tel: 0171 491 7779
Closing date for applications is 15 June 1998

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Bermuda **£Excellent**

Our client is a licensed Bermuda Trust Company which maintains a personalised service to exclusive clientele in the field of international trusts and trustee services and is affiliated with major companies throughout the world. This company is now seeking to appoint a UK-qualified lawyer with between 3 and 6 years' post qualification experience in trusts and tax to join its operation in Bermuda.

The role involves maintaining the daily work flow of an international trust portfolio, dealing with matters of taxation and trusts as they arise and drafting legal documents such as agreements and prospectuses.

You will have both taxation and trusts experience gained in private practice, at the bar or in-house and, in particular, will have experience of international personal trusts. Strong drafting and advisory skills are necessary and a second European language would be an advantage.

The successful candidate will be a self-starter with strong organisational, communication, management and people skills with an ability to deal with and develop a demanding work load as a member of a small, energetic team. You will also have the aptitude and ability to manage a portfolio whilst maximising the business development opportunities presented by this role.

This is an outstanding opportunity to build a career in the increasingly challenging financial services area and to develop a senior management position.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Bernadette Mally on 0171 405 6062 (0171-221 8526 evenings/weekends) or write to her at QD In-House Legal, Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

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This assignment is being exclusively handled by QD In-House Legal, and any direct or third party applications will be sent to them.

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The overriding objective of the role will be to provide professional legal advice to the company and the business units, working closely with the Managing Director to develop the quality and the commercial nature of the advice being given. You will manage a large team of lawyers and legal support staff and will take responsibility for leading,

developing, motivating and recruiting to the highest standards. Change management, policy making and strategic management skills will be essential in order to evolve the position.

You will be a senior lawyer (possibly in a deputy head of legal or number two position currently), seeking to utilise your already extensive legal and commercial skills and experience in a challenging new role. It is unlikely that you will have less than 15 years' diversified commercial legal experience, and you must have developed strong management skills during your career. You will need to take the lead in an increasingly competitive business environment and you will be comfortable advising the board and senior managers on legal issues in a business context. Experience of influencing a

company's direction during a period of change will be particularly useful, as would exposure to a highly regulated industry.

To discuss this position in the utmost confidence, please contact **Geraldine Hetherington** or **Lindsey Newman** at In-House Legal on 0171 405 0151. Fax: 0171 831 6498. Or write to them at In-House Legal, First Floor, High Holborn House, 52-54 High Holborn, London WC1V 6RL. geraldinehetherington@hwgroup.com www.hwgroup.com



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Bolt-ons

Bolt-ons - teams of partners and their assistants moving with their clients from one firm to another - were the most popular form of recruitment during the recession. Even the large law firms welcomed them. At least they were self-financing, and offered prospects of growth. Today, bolt-ons are still attractive. They offer a solution to the shortage of experienced candidates in the jobmarket.

The shortage of candidates is also a reason why bolt-ons are still available. Many small firms were set up by redundant lawyers during the recession. Those that survived are now doing well. A two-partner firm can typically be billing £400,000 a year. But the shortage of assistant solicitors is preventing them from growing. Worse, it is forcing the partners to do all the work themselves, including matters which they ought to be delegating. This was bearable during the start-up years, but it's become increasingly irksome. And then there's the unending administration. All in all, it's intolerable. What a relief to bolt onto another firm, even a relatively small one.

Not surprisingly, our recruitment consultants are busy arranging mergers and bolt-ons for partners who find themselves in this position. Every passing phase in the economic cycle presents a changing pattern of recruitment.

Michael Chambers

CHAMBERS' DIRECTORY
Our legal directory is available from Biblio.com, (01403-710 871)

INDUSTRY *Sonya Rayner, Morwenna Lewis, Alicen Shepherd, Fiona Boxall*

Legal Adviser: South America
Lawyer, fluent in Spanish, Portuguese and English, with approx 5 years' pqe, to handle high-powered international projects for major services company.

Commercial Lawyer: Edinburgh
New role for 1-3 yr English or Scots qualified solicitor from either a company commercial or a company secretarial background to join financial services organisation, dealing with broad and varied workload.

Construction: Central London
International engineering/construction company seeks No 2 lawyer. Ideally you will have 1-3 years' pqe including non-contentious construction experience although more junior lawyers will be considered.

PRIVATE PRACTICE LONDON: David Woolson, Paul Thomas, Emma Ridley
REGIONS: *Noel Murray, Hedley Walsh or Kate Shelley*

Banking Partner: City
Dynamic medium-sized firm, well known for its high level of profitability, seeks senior solicitor to head new unit developing streams of high quality banking work flowing through the firm.

Corporate: Central London
Many of this media firm's assistants have joined from the City attracted by top quality work for global media companies. 2-5 year qualified solicitor sought.

Commercial Litigation: City
Medium sized practice seeks a 2-4 year qualified solicitor for general international caseload. Opportunity to handle high quality work and use languages.

Corporate Tax: City
Pre-eminent firm, containing many of the City's leading tax practitioners, offers 0-2 year qualified solicitor outstanding training and experience.

IT (Team Leader): City
Major international practice requires a senior solicitor with over 5 years pqe to head a team of litigators. Excellent prospects.

Commercial/IT: West London
Work at the heart of the business with this technology services company looking for lawyers min 2 yrs' pqe for broad commercial role. Good drafting skills essential.

Construction Corporate: City
Acquisitive services company seeks No.2 to handle all its acquisitions and construction contracts and day to day legal matters. Attractive remuneration package and working environment.

Pharmaceuticals: Brussels
Leading US pharma co seeks senior lawyer with EC, competition, corporate and IP law expce together with an understanding of the pharma industry. Knowledge of English and another European language is essential.

Capital Markets/Corp Finance: City
London office of one of the best Wall St firms is currently interviewing 0-2 year qualified solicitor for broad caseload. Salaries start at around £60,000.

Property Litigation: City
Highly regarded City firm, known for its property practice, seeks a 1-3 year qualified with enthusiasm and ambition for litigation caseload.

Residential Conveyancer: City
To £40k. Fast growing firm with an even faster growing property department seeks solicitor or legal executive to handle large caseload of residential conveyancing.

Commercial Property: City
Medium sized City firm where "quality of life" is still recognised as important seeks 1-3 years pqe solicitor for its commercial property department

Head of Litigation: Beds
Par des c 5 yrs pqe sought by thriving practice to manage substantial civil lit dept. Proven management and practice development skills essential. Superb career move.

Head of Legal Affairs

PPL is the UK record industry's licensing organisation, responsible for negotiating and enforcing record companies' broadcast and public performance rights.



although the role also involves competition law, lobbying work and general commercial, employment and company issues.

PPL is looking for a senior lawyer to become its new Head of Legal Affairs and Company Secretary. This position reports to the Chief Executive and has a very high profile both within the organisation and for the music industry as a whole.

You must be articulate, a strong team player and have the personality to communicate effectively with management, PPL members and record industry representatives.

This is an exciting time for the rights industry. The impact of legislation and new technology on the UK record business is usually first felt at PPL and the Head of Legal Affairs is key to the company's results. An excellent salary and benefits package will reflect the importance attached to the role.

For further details, please contact *Morwenna Lewis, Alicen Shepherd or Sonya Rayner* or send them a copy of your CV. E-mail: morwennalewis@chambersrecruitment.co.uk



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The Chambers of Anthony Scrivener QC are pleased to announce that **Harry Wolton QC** (formerly of 5 Fountain Court, Birmingham) and **Steven Gaszowicz** (formerly of 2 New Street, Leicester) as from 22 June 1998) have accepted invitations to join Chambers

Chambers are also pleased to welcome **Douglas Lewis CBE**, as Chambers Director. **Stuart Pullum** and **Robert Barrow** have been appointed Joint First Junior Clerks.

The Members of Chambers are:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
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| Sir Graham Eyre QC | Adrian Trevelyan Thomas | Gillian Carrington |
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Bob Woffinden looks at the disturbing case of the Torso Murder

Evidence of innocence?

When Reg Dudley and Bob Maynard were convicted of murder in June 1977, the case instantly found its way into the Guinness Book of Records. At seven months, it was the longest murder trial ever held in this country. Ironically, however, the majority of cases featuring in the judicial section of the book at that time were actually miscarriages of justice (for example, biggest mass murder: the Birmingham pub bombings; longest sentences: the Guildford Four). This case proved no exception to that rule.



Maynard, left, and Dudley: convicted after a murder trial that made its way into the record books

Police investigations led nowhere. However, when the next year, the body of Micky Cornwall, a bank robber who had been shot through the head, was found in a shallow grave in woods in Hertfordshire, the two murders were linked. The police concluded that a major criminal gang was at work in North London.

what, in fact, did stop them? By the end of the 1980s, Maynard and Dudley were hoping that improvements in forensic technology — notably electrostatic document analysis (ESDA), which had already been used to establish a number of miscarriages — would prove their innocence. But when their lawyers asked for the original papers in order to carry out these tests, they were told they had been "routinely" destroyed some weeks earlier. That was not only unfortunate. In view of the enduring controversy around the case, some could have construed this in a sinister light.

was rewarded with either shorter sentences or parole and, as the Crown's chief witness says in the film, he had the help of a police officer with his evidence." Maynard and Dudley's local MP, Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, has recently pressed the case again in a letter to Sir Frederick Crawford, chairman of the Criminal Cases Review Commission, which has been considering it for more than a year.

These statements were vigorously disputed. Few could believe that either Maynard or Dudley, both of whom fenced stolen jewellery and had criminal records, would have made self-incriminating statements, particularly in such B-movie terms ("He had it coming to him... It was business... I'm not answering that, otherwise I'm finished").

The programme tells how in 1978 the leader of the police investigation, Commander Bert Wickstead, was asked what there was to stop the police inventing witness statements. "Our inherent honesty and sense of fair play," he responded. "That's what's to stop them, and

the case was subsequently dismissed at appeal. Yet for all the longevity of the trial, the evidence against both Maynard and Dudley was remarkably weak. It consisted almost entirely of statements which each was alleged to have made in police custody. As the judge, Mr Justice Swinwick, told the jury: "Without the evidence of the alleged oral confessions, there would not be evidence on which the Crown could ask you to convict."

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FOIL cries foul

The insurance industry is chafing at the bit for the imminent expansion of the market in "no win, no fee" work. Some companies are already in there with policies; many more are being developed. But insurers also have reservations about the Government's plans for their new role in ensuring access to justice.

In the final part of her series, Frances Gibb looks at how government reforms will affect the insurance industry

Under plans for "no win, no fee" work, lawyers take on a case for nothing. But if they win, they can charge up to 100 per cent on top of their normal fee — the so-called uplift, or "success fee". The Government has floated the idea that in any claim, the insurers of an unsuccessful defendant should pay these fees, so that they do not have to come out of the winning claimant's damages.

what of the overall picture? Will people always be able to afford the premiums? And how will solicitors finance expensive claims from their practices? Brian Raincock, managing director of Litigation Protection, acknowledges that affordability and the viability of solicitors' practices are of concern. "It is not just a question of insurance: it is who pays for it."

Provision is still patchwork. The industry argues that a full range of schemes will not emerge while legal aid exists. But lawyers say that will deny people access to justice. Any change, however, will be gradual: the plan is for a phased withdrawal of legal aid over three years.

Meanwhile, the insurance industry relishes the impending curtailment of legal aid. As a lawyer for insurers, Mr Bruffell straddles both camps and sums up the views of each. "Our clients [insurers] will be glad to see it go," he explains. "For years, they have been paying out for claims backed by legal aid, irrespective of their liability but just on the basis of economics — it was cheaper to pay out than fight it."

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THE TIMES ARTS



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A new hand
on the Bach
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Nottingham's
Tennessee
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The making of Andy

GALLERIES: Richard Cork surveys a huge, revealing London exhibition of Warhol art and memorabilia



Andy Warhol (centre), with Gerard Malanga, Chuck Wein and Edie Sedgwick in 1965

Suddenly, in the middle of 100 press and publicity photographs of Marilyn Monroe, a single face leaps out. It seems far more insistently memorable than the rest. For this black-and-white shot was seized on by Andy Warhol and turned, through obsessive repetition, into the most celebrated of all Marilyn's images.

You can see why he chose it. With parted lips and half-closed eyes, the pouting icon is caught at her peak. She exudes the shameless Hollywood glamour Warhol worshipped. He drew four black lines around the head alone, to discover how it would look in his own blown-up versions. But the lines also seem violent, severing Marilyn's face and neck from her voluptuous body with the brutality of an executioner's blade.

In an exhibition given over to Warhol's love of style and fashion, this is the moment when the darker side of his infatuation becomes clear. Cleverly, the organisers of the Barbican show hang the Marilyn photographs opposite a wall full of his own large screenprints. Here, the same seductive features are put through an astonishing sequence of discordant colour transformations. They always emphasise the cosmetic artifice of Marilyn's face, and at times her high-gloss make-up is alluring. Elsewhere in the series, though, the pulsating garishness almost engulfs her. It threatens to obliterate the goddess, just as the onslaught of booze, drugs and fame destroyed Marilyn herself.

By the time he produced these deeply ambiguous images in the 1960s, the American Dream had turned into a full-blown nightmare. Glamour and death were now inseparable in his mind. But when the young Warhol moved to New York in 1949, he was in thrall to the seductiveness of Hollywood in a far more straightforward way.

One showcase in this comprehensive, often overwhelming survey contains the album of movie star photos he collected as a teenager. Growing up as plain Andrew Warhola, the son of working-class Roman Catholic parents in grimy Pittsburgh, he spent his adolescent years longing for an irresistible alternative to the industrial reality around him. The album is open at a page where the windblown Eleanor Powell smiles at the camera, in a picture inscribed "To Andy" by the star herself.

Always an avid collector, Warhol devoted much energy to gathering these unattainable sirens around him. When David Bailey asked the elderly Mrs Warhola why her son had doted on screen goddesses so much, she replied: "Nostalgic. He loves it... I like it too." Mother and son were united in their adoration, but Warhol used it as a springboard for reinventing himself.

Once he settled in New York, the bespectacled and prematurely balding ex-art student shaped his own appearance as well. He paid for cosmetic surgery on his bulbous nose, and started experimenting with wigs.

Earning his living through display work for chic department stores, he found himself surrounded by postwar Manhattan fashion at its most beguiling. By designing expensive shoes with the aid of gold leaf and tempera, Warhol discovered how to turn his nostalgia for the past into an engagement with modernity.

A crucial element in his elegant shop-window displays was played by draughtsmanship. Already, during this pre-Pop period when Warhol the gallery artist had yet to emerge, he acquired a consummate command of line. A roomful of his most impres-

sive drawings from this time are now displayed at the Tate Gallery, on loan from the Froehlich Foundation.

They isolate on blank backgrounds shimmering, gilded images of a homoerotic nude, Helena Rubinstein or a young boy dreaming. The contours defining them are crisp, assured and above all economical. Warhol seems to have possessed an instinct for summarising a charismatic face or a lithe body, presenting us with the highly simplified essence of his subject. This ability provided him with the formal foundations of his Pop paintings.

Warhol shaped his own image as carefully as he crafted his art

Once he had engineered his move from department stores to art galleries, Warhol refashioned himself as well. Back in 1956, he wore a discreet, three-button, camel-coloured suit. Now, as the 1960s asserted a stridently sexy new mood, Warhol dressed in a black leather biker's jacket, striped matelot shirt and black cotton jeans. Immaculately preserved, they are displayed at the Barbican along with his cosmetics. Warhol became sleek and cool in the 1960s, posing like a gangster with sunshades against the silver-coloured wall of The Factory.

Photographs proliferate of Warhol's bizarre and attenuated Edie Sedgwick, or the muscular Joe Dallesandro who starred in Warhol films as raw and provocative as the much-touted *Trash*. You can listen to Warhol on the phone, mumbling in his inimitable drone to Paulette Goddard en route to dinner at Diana Vreeland's. Most of their conversation is as hard to decipher as the dialogue in Warhol's own films, but they seem to be talking about a mutual friend's chronic drug problem.

After a while, the exhibition's emphasis on the minutiae of Warhol's life made me feel like a voyeur. But he always encouraged this kind of keyhole curiosity. The gawky adolescent from Pittsburgh had undergone a prodigious metamorphosis. He became lodged at the very centre of fashionable Manhattan life, and the press followed all his outlandish permutations with faithful fascination.

The more media exposure he received, though, the less anyone really knew about Warhol the man. He became an icon as mythical, in his way, as Marilyn or Liz. The real Warhol always evaded understanding, and his silver wig symbolised the apparent agelessness of an enigmatic superstar.

Then, with sickening swiftness, Warhol became mortal. Shot by an alienated member of his own circle, he almost died on the operating table. Richard Avedon's clinical 1969 photograph reveals the full, grievous extent of his injuries. Parting his leather jacket, he discloses the bullet scars and stitches running like rough rivets across his fleshy torso.

Warhol was seen to be vulnerable after all, and the exhibition dramatises this shift in perception by filling a showcase with the surgical

corsets he now had to wear. However much he tried to soften their advent by dyeing them in appealing hues, the corsets must have dented his former insouciance.

He attempted, even as late as the 1980s, to make light of his increasing frailty. In a section of the show devoted to Drag, Warhol preens himself in wigs and glistening make-up. But there is a sadness in his gaunt face.

Warhol tried to re-new himself by collaborating with the young Jean-Michel Basquiat, who gave him access to a street-wise milieu far removed from the high-fashion world still dominated by the ageing style priestess Diana Vreeland. Ever the chameleon, he glided between raffish downtown and the heady glamour of Studio 54, the uptown club where Warhol consorted with Bianca Jagger and Liza Minnelli.

Strobe lighting gave him the gaudy motif for a series of psychedelic self-portraits, but no amount of camouflage could hide his haggardness now. Robert Mapplethorpe's magisterial 1986 photograph of Andy in a wispy wig catches his frailty with alarming incisiveness.

Unabashed, he posed as a living mannequin in a nightclub window. But the reconstruction displayed at the Barbican uses a waxwork figure as macabre as a painted corpse. His bullet-proof vest, on display in the final room, proves how seriously he took self-preservation. Nothing, however, could stave off the end. He died at the age of 58, soon after appearing as a catwalk model in a fashion show at the Tunnel club, defying mortality to the last.

● The Warhol Look at the Barbican Art Gallery (0171-638 4441) until Aug 16, and the Froehlich Foundation at the Tate (0171-687 8000) until Sept 20

AROUND THE LONDON GALLERIES

STAGED to coincide with the Tate's show of expansive new canvases by Lucian Freud, this exhibition of his paintings and drawings — all drawn from private collections and so rarely seen — is exquisite. The earlier works make for fascinating comparison with the most recent pieces. Portraits of the artist's mother, of two of his daughters, of himself with a black eye, allow a peculiarly intimate glimpse into an aloof and often intimidating man. To see this show is almost to sit leaning through a family photograph album.

The graceful, fluid brushwork and lambent tones of a head study of Lady Jane Willoughby reveal a less sceptical, more romantic painter than the harsh, often predatory, portraitist so familiar from later work. And while drawings have an uncompromising sparseness and economy, there is, in even the smallest paintings, a spectacular precision which reveals a steadiness of hand and sharpness of eye which a painter now in his late seventies can no longer possess.

Theo Waddington Fine Art, 5a Cork Street, W1 (0171-494 1584) until July 18

■ BROOKLYN bad-boy Andres Serrano continues a provocative career with a series of sexual tableaux. A

History of Sex juxtaposes striking, supposedly subversive, photographic portraits of nudes. His models, sleek youths or slack-skinned ancients, were mostly passers-by, picked up from the streets of European cities. They adopt stark, often classical poses and when they are clothed it is with erotic intent. Clearly intended to tackle taboo, these graphic and aggressively frank images are disturbing, tender, often sad and occasionally ludicrous.

Photology, 34 Litchfield Street, WC2 (0171-836 8600) until July 17

■ NOTORIOUSLY self-effacing, Michael Andrews was, it was once said, in danger of being taken as a rumour rather than a person. He has never had the major retrospective that a painter of his calibre deserves, which is why the opportunity to see this show of his Thames paintings should be seized. Crossing the river twice a day on his way from home to studio and back again, Andrews painted beautiful, atmospheric canvases, as shifting, mercurial and shadowy as the Thames itself.

Timothy Taylor Gallery, 1 Bruton Place W1 (0171-409 3344) until June 20

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON

Decades in the wilderness

Isabel Carlisle on a show at the Tate Gallery St Ives which casts new light on the painter John Wells

The Tate Gallery St Ives is five years old, and with a shuffle of the semi-permanent collection and a number of loans it has brought the artist John Wells to the top of the pack to be the focus of the new display. Wells is 91 years old this year. He arrived in Cornwall to paint in 1945, having already had a career as a doctor on the Scilly Isles. Over the following ten years he rapidly found his feet as an artist and produced

works that were shown alongside Ben Nicholson, Barbara Hepworth and Peter Lanyon in both Cornwall and London. After exhibiting abroad, Wells was invited to hold a one-man show at Waddington Galleries in 1964. It proved to be a turning point for the worse. The hard-edge abstraction that he was experimenting with in his paintings failed either to sell or to impress the critics. Depressed and unable to paint, Wells retreated into privacy and his work has been more or less neglected ever since.

This revelatory exhibition rescues the work of a British artist who was encouraged by the Russian constructivist Naum Gabo and influenced by Klee. Wells met Gabo through his friendship with Ben Nicholson in 1940 and was deeply impressed by Gabo's semi-Cubist *Head* made out of flat metal cut-outs. Wells immediately responded with his own *Construction* made with materials he had to hand from his surgery. A knitting needle, like a thrown lance, holds a ball of red wax on one end while around the shaft twirls a loose arabesque of aluminium strip, of the type used for binding finger splints together. This little work launched Wells into abstract-



Rediscovered: John Wells's *Untitled* (1946), oil and pencil on board

material pioneered by Gabo. While Wells still uses the Golden Section, a geometric progression found in nature and used by the ancient Greeks in their architecture, to establish the proportions of his twisting blade-like shapes, he has reached a plateau of confidence that enables him to leave that behind in subsequent landscape works such as *Journey and Vista*.

In these sweeping bird's-eye views, fields and mountains rush towards the cramped horizon of sea or sky, painted in chalky turquoises, greys and greens that Peter Lanyon also used for Cornwall. At their best, Wells's paintings reject smallness of scale and transcend the group aesthetic (that scraping through and layering of paint, on board rather than canvas, was also used by Nicholson and Hepworth) and achieve an airy, fragile serendipity.

● John Wells: The Fragile Cell is at Tate St Ives (01736 796 226) until

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TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Mark Hargre

concerts will teach back Mozart's Overture to The Magic Flute, followed by works by Strauss, Debussy and Elgar drawn by lot.

ELSEWHERE CHESTER: Ann Byson, Victor McCole and Caroline Hill play the two women and their local-loving men in Dobbin last's excellent black comedy.



Jude Kelly directs Kay Mellor's Queen in Leeds

LONDON GALLERIES

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ARTS

Put the 'cor' back in choral

The Bach Choir's new conductor aims to revive the excitement of choral singing. John Allison reports

Choirs go for years without making the news. Even as renowned a body as the Bach Choir can give one outstanding performance after another and attract little attention.

Willcocks will be a hard act to follow, but the 40-year-old Hill is well equipped for the job. For just over a decade he has been organist of Winchester Cathedral, and among the large choirs he has directed is the Philharmonia Chorus.

Such an extent that now choral singing is an endangered art. What will guarantee the survival of these sometimes old-fashioned organisations in our changing society?

"A realisation that when it is done well, large-scale choral singing can produce a sound like nothing else," Hill says. "People have to see that 250 singers and a 100-piece orchestra is an experience to be part of."

What is it, in the great creamery of top British choirs, that attracted Hill to this job? "Contrary to popular perception, the Bach Choir is not a stuffy institution, nor is it particularly grey-haired. It is very much a going concern, a



The Bach Choir in St David's Cathedral: 250 voices welded into a single instrument

sluck machine. And it is a unique musical instrument that doesn't feel like 250 singers. They have a strong sense of rhythm, they are highly motivated, they watch, and sing in tune - well, most of the time."

These attributes are all part of the Willcocks legacy, and Hill will be bringing to them his own special knowledge of singing technique. "I am going to home in on certain areas of vocal production. As a student I spent more hours than I care to remember playing for singing teachers, and training a choir is no different from training a voice. You are just training a corporate voice."

Both the well-heeled and the barefooted were well served in the last weekend of what has been an intelligently compiled programme. In the Assembly Rooms, Terry Basmet and his team of Russian soloists were coming to the end of their term as artists in residence and firmly disposing of any nervousness about the ensemble being a vehicle for a star viola player.

For the other audience the heroes were either the Kronos Quartet, continuing their 25th birthday, with Adams and Riley in the dress space of the Forum, or the Arditti Quartet performing miracles in the Guildhall. It is true that the revelations in the Arditti's concerts were not the two pieces new to this country: Luca Francesconi's Quartet No 3 was as pretentious and as incoherent as the composer's programme note and Akira Nishimura's Quartet No 3 seemed translated from an exotic language with the aid of a pocket dictionary and no idea of the grammar.

On the other hand, before going on untrillingly to confirm what we already knew of Ligeti's and Schmitzke's Second String Quartets and Xenakis's Tetras, they made persuasive cases for two recent British works. Although very different from each other - Jonathan Harvey's Quartet No 3 is as abstract as you can get without going electronic while Thomas Adès's Arcadiana is subtly linked to familiar musical images - they both emerged with complete textual clarity, in convincing structural shape and in interesting colours.

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BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Danely's firm turned into a hit Broadway musical. Jude Kelly directs Kay Mellor's Queen in Leeds

THE NATIONAL THEATRE production of Patrick Marber's hit play about dogeater personal relationships with Frances Barber and Lisa Wilson

THE DAY I STOOD STILL: Impressive new Kevin Elyot play about the paralyzing effect of unrequited love

LOVE YOU TOO: New David Lucie play, with Susannah Doyle, Miranda Foster, Rance Doolittle and Sam Graham

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE: Kathryn Pogson's Portia comes to the aid of Mark Rylance's Shylock in Richard Eyre's strongly cast production

NEW RELEASES AFTERGLOW (15): Two interlocked couples search for happiness. Quality and pleasing romantic comedy with great performances from Julia Christie and Nick Nolte

DARK CITY (15): Future shows lights to regain his memory in a show he's not missing his old life with sci-fi trappings

THE GENERAL (15): Dynamic comedy starring the high criminal Martin Clunes (Brendan Gleeson). Meticulously directed by John Boorman

THE JAMES GANG (15): British crime caper that lurches too much between comedy and drama

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of the theatre showing in London

WALK, BARKSIDE, SE1 (0171-401 6919) Tonight, 7.30pm, tomorrow, 2pm

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE: Kathryn Pogson's Portia comes to the aid of Mark Rylance's Shylock

THE REAL BLONDE (15): Patchy but entertaining send-up of the media world

STAR KID (15): Micky's effective family film about a child who escapes from an abusive school to live with his uncle

WILD THINGS (15): New Campbell and the hooded licker return in the sequel to West Country's excellent post-modern slasher romp

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SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER

Jim musical on stage: American-Hipped Adam Sessle plays the role of the arm in the hit, Blazing Miles

SWEET CHARITY: The Big Spender musical from 1967, revised with Bonnie Langford and Mark Wray

THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE: Alan Ayckbourn's new play about a woman who falls for a man who is not who he seems

BLOOD BROTHERS: Phantoms (0171-339 1733) ... Buddy (0171-435 2943)

AN INSPECTOR CALLS: Gemma (0171-494 5058) ... Last Tango in Paris (0171-494 5058)

THE MOUNTAIN: St Martin's (0171-538 1443) ... The Power of the Poem (0171-638 8291)

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Nowt so diverse as folk

ON PAPER, a programme ranging from Luciano Berio to Harburg and Corneille's Brother, can you Spare a Dime? seemed implausible. But that was to reckon without the diverse talents of Dawn Upshaw

Upshaw delivered the songs with the winning spontaneity that is her hallmark. Much as I warm to this singer, I find her tendency to croon a little difficult to take in some classical repertoire.

In fact, the contrast between the various items was not so great, since they were all variations on the theme of a folk song. Berio's Folk Songs, written in 1964, represent a characteristically subtle handling of the genre

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Virtuoso strings tied up all tastes

THE Bath Festival is fortunate in having two audiences for its classical concerts - one of them carefully turned out for the high-quality instrumental music found mainly in the Assembly Rooms

Both the well-heeled and the barefooted were well served in the last weekend of what has been an intelligently compiled programme

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number of points, second and third prize will be allocated to those scoring second and third highest respectively. The prize prizes will be awarded to the player scoring the most points in the relevant phase. 14. In the event of there being more than one winner of any prize, a tie-breaker will apply and the winner will be considered the player whose team has accrued the most goals...

Table listing players from various countries (Argentina, Austria, Brazil, etc.) with their names, positions, and player codes.

The first column of figures after players names shows the country. The list will not be finalized until the close of 22 have been announced. Remember you are allowed unlimited changes to your team until June 9.

Ballydoyle gallops to provide next important clues as build-up to Derby gathers pace
Kinane tests allegiance to King and Empire

By CHRIS McGRATH

IF THOSE who named the two colts can be accused of something approaching hubris, there is no doubting the authentic sense of destiny that persists as they walk onto the Ballydoyle gallops this morning. For in competing for the Vodafone Derby favour of Michael Kinane, King Of Kings and Second Empire will work on the same springboard that produced Ireland's last seven Epsom winners.

by Godolphin, if the ground rode as fast as when she ran away with the 1,000 Guineas. At Epsom for a Vodafone Derby lunch, Piggott said: "A lot depends on the weather now, as there is rain forecast and they have watered. I think Cape Verdi has a better chance of staying the trip than King Of Kings, but she wouldn't want rain. City Honours [Godolphin's second string] would, though - he could even win on soft ground."



Kinane will decide today whether to renew his 2,000 Guineas-winning partnership with King Of Kings, left, in the Derby on Saturday

ACCEPTORS AND LATEST BETTING

Table with columns for race name, time, and betting odds. Includes sections for 3.45 Vodafone Derby Stakes and 3.30 Victor Chandler Channel 4 Teletext.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Moving Princess (4.15 Pontefract) Moving Princess made an encouraging seasonal debut when running on powerfully at Epsom, confirming this step up to trip on a more demanding track.

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market. Vodafone Oaks Epsom, June 5. Guide to the prices.

The Vodafone Oaks may have lost some of its appeal to the punter with the defection of Cape Verdi to the Derby, but the decision by Godolphin to rely on Bahr is good news for ante-post punters.

PONTEFRACT

Table listing race results and betting information for Pontefract, including 2.45 Dashiba and 3.15 Classic Manoeuvres.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

Table providing a guide to the racecard, listing race numbers, times, and key horses.

Loder sets sights on Ascot prize

DAVID LODER, the Newmarket trainer, unveiled another smart juvenile when Blue Melody made a winning debut at Leicester yesterday.

BRIGHTON

Table listing race results and betting information for Brighton, including 2.30 Victor Chandler Bet Today by Debit Card.

FORM FOCUS

Text providing analysis and form notes for various horses in the racecard.

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Text providing analysis and form notes for various horses in the racecard.

Johnston target for royal fixture

MARK JOHNSTON has Lend A Hand on target to tackle the group one St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot later this month.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Table listing the results of races from the previous day, including race numbers, winners, and odds.

FORM FOCUS

Text providing analysis and form notes for various horses in the racecard.

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The great debate unfolds on a wise or foolhardy omission by the England coach

Right choice undermined by bad timing

Gascoigne's battle for fitness shown to be a lost cause in Wembley swansong

The England coach was right to drop Paul Gascoigne, wrong in his timing. To have indulged so palpably unfit a player to the last minute, to have encouraged the belief only days earlier on Gascoigne's 31st birthday that he was close to fitness and form, was a cruel deception.

If Glenn Hoddle deceived himself into thinking there was time to correct what had gone so wrong for months, then his judgment is alarming. If he knew what he now suggests was evident two months ago, then stringing Gazza along and allowing public confidence to build up as it did was unpardonable.

We do not have another Gascoigne. Each and every one of us who covets the moments that distinguished him as the outstanding entertainer of his era, and sometimes the spirited match-winner to boot, shares the sadness that he let himself down.

But Hoddle was uniquely placed to monitor the decline. Hoddle could consult his army of helpers, the psychic ones and the medical ones. He could run with Gascoigne (indeed outrun him), to assess him one to one. Given their history, given the way Gascoigne had responded to trust in the past, the coach surely had experience on which to decide that this time the deadline was beyond the player.

This view is not given with the benefit of hindsight. Until the game against Saudi Arabia at Wembley ten days ago, I felt Gascoigne had to be given every chance. His gift is that special. Yet in that match the conclusion was inescapable that he was too far gone to recover anything approaching tournament fitness in the available time. He lost the ball to a green shirt, gave chase and made no impression on the opponent moving away at moderate pace; and Gascoigne's cheeks, pink with effort and frustration, signalled the lost cause. Why, then, prolong the agony? Why select a player embarrassing himself — at the expense of experimenting on how to overcome his loss?

When Hoddle spoke behind his black sunglasses yesterday it was with almost chilling lack of sentiment. "With the pace of the

modern game," he said, "you have to be an athlete. I watched Germany the other day, I watch Brazil, and though they are excellent players they are also athletes."

"For a World Cup, the best and toughest tournament there is, you have to choose players who are able to start a game and play 90 minutes. And I'm hoping we go seven games to the final." Hope he must, fall he may.

The only case against the omission of Gascoigne would be if the coach believed a miracle might happen; that the player might defy human nature to get fit. However, if the engine to carry the talent has given way, if it cannot be fixed in time, England has no option but to rely on the collective effort and spirit of others.

Will those who helped Gascoigne to this sorry state stick with him now to help him through what sometimes hit him — and the other five players dropped — hard? Or will they make their excuses and find some other vehicle to ride?

Their blind accusations of betrayal are not the help Gascoigne needs. Neither can it do any good to cast him off as coldly as the England coach seemed to do on Sunday. Maybe it was professional to get the six out of La Manga before their dismay could disturb squad morale — but how unnerving it was to hear Hoddle, still behind those shades, sum up: "I had two or three minutes with Paul. Within 45 minutes we got the boys out very quickly and off home."

Like the sacking of Gazza, it had to be done. But so calculatingly, and so bluntly put? There is, we appreciate, a premium on time. We will have to stop talking about Gascoigne soon, but Hoddle's decision, described by Tony Banks, the Sports Minister, as an act of bravery, was nothing of the kind; the braver decision would have come far sooner.

Long ago, Joe Mercer, an England manager who greatly admired players of flair, commented when George Best began to drift away from greatness: "Genius is fine when it's on song. When it goes off it becomes a nuisance because it contaminates."

When Hoddle spoke behind his black sunglasses yesterday it was with almost chilling lack of sentiment. "With the pace of the

ROB HUGHES



Even in moments of triumph, the tortured genius that is Gascoigne is never far from the surface

Punishment does not fit the crime

Hasty Hoddle has no substitute for Gascoigne's courage and peerless talent

Across England, hindsight is rampant. Paul Gascoigne has been dropped from the England World Cup squad and the race is on to claim: "I told you so." Gazza? "Never fit enough... you could see it coming... past his best, anyone could see that... brave decision but totally right..."

Yet, amid all the bar-room debates, the television punditry and the newspaper column inches in the days and weeks leading up to the events of Sunday night, not one of football's wisecracks claimed that Gascoigne would be spending the summer staring inconsolably into a pint pot. Stand up if you got it right. I thought not.

So why did no one call for Gascoigne to be axed? Why was there not a campaign launched for his instant banishment 48 hours ago? For the simple reason that no one believed that it should happen, not even those who rail against the kebabs, the drinking, the smoking and his choice of show-business friends.

There were those who said that he was past his best, and who would argue? Many, such as Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, suggested that Gascoigne should be limited to the substitutes' bench. No one, though, said that he should not be given the chance to prove that he had something to contribute to the England cause, because they recognised what he was and still is, albeit in a limited role: the peerless footballer of his generation.

It was only a fortnight ago that England met Saudi Arabia at Wembley. Bored supporters began a chant, and within seconds it was booming around the stadium: "We want Gazza!" Fans can be accused of many things, but they know a player when they see one and for most under the age of 40, they have never seen anyone like Gascoigne. Even if only in brief flurries, he raises England to another tier.

Those who insist that Gascoigne has never been the same since his spate of injuries are flying in the face of evidence. Rome, where England qualified for the World Cup with exactly the type of discipline that they will need this summer, was only seven months

ago — and Gascoigne was at its hub. Italy did not know how to handle him. When they dived in, he twisted away or accepted the fouls. When they stood off, he happily kept possession as no other Englishman could, or indeed can.

There are those seeking to attribute Gascoigne's omission to indiscipline. There is talk of missed buses, of asking for a beer during a game of golf. Hardly sackable crimes and, after all, when did Gazza ever behave differently? Hoddle must be taken on his word that it was a decision based purely on fitness, but the England coach concurs that a fully fit Gascoigne would be an integral part of his squad. It could easily be argued that an 80 per cent fit Gascoigne should be going to the World Cup — certainly every bit as much as an 80 per cent fit Darren

Anderton, which is what the Tottenham Hotspur player appears to be.

There is little doubt that Gascoigne had left it late, but this is a player who has recovered from serious injury as courageously as any. With two weeks until England's first game, he deserved the chance to prove his powers of recovery. After all, what are the alternatives?

David Beckham, a wonderful passer, lacks the quick feet to beat players. His own manager does not believe that he is ready for the responsibilities of central midfield at club level. Then there is Anderton, who played two full games for Tottenham last season and yet who is regarded as ready for the rigours of a World Cup final.

Paul Merson appears to be making up the numbers, while Paul Scholes, young and prodigious talent that he is, is another who does not hold the ball like Gascoigne. The talk is of Steve McManaman, but he appears to have never seen anyone like Gascoigne. Even if only in brief flurries, he raises England to another tier.

There are those among the squad, such as Les and Merson, who will be doing football's equivalent of carrying the drinks tray this summer. Gascoigne, meanwhile, may be helping himself to the drinks cabinet. It is a shameful waste and a needless one.

There are those among the squad, such as Les and Merson, who will be doing football's equivalent of carrying the drinks tray this summer. Gascoigne, meanwhile, may be helping himself to the drinks cabinet. It is a shameful waste and a needless one.

MATT DICKINSON

'We all share the sadness that he let himself down'

'He deserved chance to prove his powers of recovery'

Venables alone looked comfortable with wayward genius



Taylor: dropped Gascoigne

Glenn Hoddle has treated Paul Gascoigne rather like one of Pavlov's dogs, subjecting him harshly to alternating stimuli. How else can one describe the way Hoddle eulogised Gascoigne on Friday evening, not least his physical condition, speaking optimistically of his World Cup prospects and generally giving the impression that the player was home and dry; only to tell him so soon afterwards that he was out in the cold.

Psychologically, for all his marvellous footballing talents, and the fact that he is much the most gifted player of his English generation, Gascoigne has always been a fragile craft, and this sort of treatment would reduce a far stronger character to utter despair. It must have been all the less expected, given that Hoddle, since

he took over as England's coach, has sometimes bent over backwards to accommodate and encourage the player.

Yet this is by no means the first time that Gascoigne has had brusque treatment from an England manager. Bobby Robson might well have chosen Gascoigne for England's ill-starred participation in the finals of the European championship in West Germany in 1988. He was omitted, and England — whose team included Hoddle himself — gave a pitiful account of themselves.

There was still a long way for Gazza to go before, at last, he won his place in the team. Robson began by choosing him for England B and, perversely, obliged him to play out on the left wing. When Gascoigne had a particularly fine game, Robson publicly

Brian Glanville recalls other England managers who cast Gascoigne aside

criticised him for the one occasion that he gave the ball away. Right up to the announcement of the squad for the 1990 World Cup in Italy, Gazza — "daft as a brush" in Robson's words — was on trial.

When it came to the last of the warm-up games, against Czechoslovakia, Robson announced that this was Gascoigne's last chance to find a place in the squad. Again, a much more mature and balanced personality would have found the pressure appalling. Indeed, it was reported that when the teams lined up in the tunnel at Wembley, Gascoigne, eyes blazing, was furiously kicking at the wall. He went

out and played superbly, scored a spectacular goal and was far and away the outstanding player on the field. In Italy, his contribution did so much to enable England to reach the semi-final. Remember those famous tears in Turin. Next came Graham Taylor who, in his first game as England manager, promptly dropped Gascoigne from the team to play Ireland in Dublin. It seemed a strange omission. Taylor tried to justify it on the dubious grounds that, given the conditions and the way that Ireland used the long ball, it was not Gascoigne's sort of game.

When, in the summer of 1993, it came to the vital World Cup qualifying game against Norway in Oslo, Taylor gave a pre-match press conference in which he warned Gascoigne of the dangers of what he euphemistically called "refuelling" — not to mention over-eating.

Gascoigne was in calmer waters when Terry Venables took over, though he had to get over the latest of his appalling self-inflicted injuries. Venables, of course, had been Gascoigne's manager and mentor at Tottenham Hotspur, where he had established a friendly, almost avuncular, relationship with him. There were those who thought he may have been a little too permissive but, by and large, he seemed to get the best out of Gascoigne, who scored that memorable goal against Scotland in Euro 96.

Hoddle kept faith with Gascoigne for a long time, seeing, perhaps, some kind of reflection of himself as a player — gifted, unorthodox and not always appreciated. This indulgence, which ran counter to conventional wisdom, could not be sustained indefinitely. When it came to this World Cup, there was as clear a case for excluding Gascoigne, given his physical condition, as there was for gambling on his sporadic ability to turn any game.

It is simply sad that Gascoigne's hopes should have been raised and dashed in such swift succession. To those who claim that he has always been his worst enemy, Gascoigne, after his years in Rome, might respond with the old Italian saying: "Oh God, protect me from my friends. I'll deal with my enemies."

Dublin shrugs off decision

DUBLIN put a brave face on his exclusion from the England World Cup squad yesterday, despite admitting that he was surprised to have been left out of the 22 selected by Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, to travel to France. "If you get into the last 30 of a World Cup squad, then you think you have a chance and that was certainly the case with me," the Coventry City striker said. "I thought I did alright against Morocco and was quite pleased when I came on at centre half against Belgium, so I am naturally very disappointed. "I didn't see it as a straight fight between me and Les

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

Ferdinand [who was selected]. Every player has their individual strengths and the manager must have been looking for what Les can offer. Les is a friend of mine and I wish him the best. I just hope now that we go and win the tournament."

Bo Johansson, the Denmark coach, sprang few surprises when he announced his squad for the World Cup yesterday, picking four players who were in the FA Carling Premiership last season, plus three more in the Bell's Scottish League premier division. Peter Schmeichel, of Manchester United, is certain to start in goal, while

Jacob Laursen, of Derby County, is likely to be included in a defensive role. Per Frandsen, of Bolton Wanderers, and Allan Nielsen, of Tottenham Hotspur, are competing for places in midfield.

Celtic have two players in the party, Marc Rieper, formerly of West Ham United, and Morten Wieghorst, while Brian Laudrup, the Rangers forward who hopes to play for Chelsea next season, joins his elder brother, Michael, of Ajax, further forward.

Henri Kasperczak, the Tunisia coach, announced his squad yesterday, which includes four European-based players. Adel Sellimi plays for Jaen in the Spanish second division; Zoubair Beye and Mahdi Ben Slimane are with SC Freiburg in Germany; and Ali Bou Mnijel, the goalkeeper, is with Bastia, in France. Tunisia are in the same group as England, Romania and Colombia.

Savo Milosevic, the former Aston Villa striker, was named in the Yugoslavia squad yesterday.

STANDING in the middle of the pristine Ewood Park pitch, dwarfed by the £30 million stadium that Jack built, Kevin Davies could be forgiven for a wide-eyed sense of disbelief. Only a year ago, he was performing in front of barely a handful of supporters at Chesterfield's decrepit Recreation Ground and here he was smashing a record transfer fee at Blackburn Rovers that had been set previously by Chris Sutton and, before him, Alan Shearer. Yet if Davies described yesterday as "a bit scary for a young man", his demeanour, after the completion of his £7.25 million transfer from Southampton to Blackburn — the same path as that trod by Shearer when he moved north from The Dell — was anything but that of a frightened footballer. If confidence is anything to go by, then he will follow in Shearer's footsteps to stardom in Lancashire and on the international stage with England. "Shearer is Shearer and

Kevin is not the same type of player, but their attitude is similar," Roy Hodgson, the Blackburn manager, said yesterday. "Kevin wants success just as much as Alan and I'm sure he will get it. We have to put his fee in perspective. It might seem a lot, but Chelsea paid £5 million for [Pierluigi Casiraghi, who is coming to the end of his career, while Kevin is only 21]. Davies does have some-



Davies: potential

By DAVID MADDOCK

thing of Shearer about him in his monotone approach to the media, but he believes passionately in his ability and is not afraid to talk about it. "I am looking to learn here, to play in Europe and then hopefully get in the England team," he said. "That's why I came here, to be successful. I did get into the England B squad just after Christmas, but was injured. Who knows, if I had done well, then I could have been going to the World Cup now. "I know there will be comparisons with Shearer because I also came from Southampton, but I don't like to compare myself with anyone. Hopefully, in four or five years, people will be compared to me. I know that I was at Chesterfield only a year ago and that was a huge leap, but this time I think I can make the step forward more easily."

If Davies's unlikely transfer after just one injury-hit season on the South Coast was the most surprising domestic

story of the day, then the announcement that Sir John Hall had resigned from his position as chairman of Newcastle United Football Club for the second time was not far behind.

Sir John took control of the club only in April, after stories in a tabloid newspaper involving Douglas Hall, his son, and Freddie Shepherd, the chairman, prompted the pair to resign as directors. Sir John



Hall: resignation

said then that he did not want to stay on for long, but when Sir Frederick Harrison, resigned last week as the chairman of the Newcastle United plc board, along with John Mayo, a non-executive director, it was seen as a victory for Sir John in what was widely interpreted to be a political struggle between them.

As a result, after gaining full control of the club, his act in stepping down is mystifying. One interpretation of events yesterday is that Sir John is paving the way for Shepherd and Douglas Hall to return, but that is unlikely. Instead, Sir John is expected to move towards the appointment of a successor who is loyal to his family.

A new chairman will not be announced until two non-executive positions on the plc board have been filled. Only then will the position of football club chairman be discussed, with Freddie Fletcher, the present football club chief executive, being a possible compromise solution.

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CRICKET

Glamorgan deflated as Langer cuts loose

By SIMON WILDE

LORD'S (final day of four): Middlesex (22pts) beat Glamorgan (7) by nine wickets

AUSTRALIAN cricketers have such a love for Lord's that it is surprising Middlesex have not invited more of them to play. Justin Langer is the first since Jeff Thomson in 1981, though Greg Blewett would have joined last year had his country not needed him. When Blewett declined a second offer six months ago, Langer, who has a large painting of Lord's hanging in his Perth home, was thrilled to journey to his personal Mecca. He did not kiss his helmet when he reached his hundred yesterday, as Michael Slater memorably did on making his maiden Test century on the ground five years ago, but he did, enough bat-waving and air-punching to make his feelings clear. His delight was thoroughly warranted, as was that of

had his eye on Jimmy Cook's record for an overseas batsman in England - 2,755 runs seven years ago - even before his arrival. Cook's tally looks eminently approachable now, with Langer 765 runs to the good after five matches and averaging 127.50. When play began yesterday, Glamorgan were optimistic of recording only their third championship victory on the ground - their last was 44 years ago - and a magnificent opening spell by Watkin kept their hopes high. His relentless accuracy forced Kettleborough to glove a catch to slip but, unlikely though it seemed at the time, that was to be their last success.

Rampkrash, announcing himself with two majestic cover drives off Cosker, was even more imperious than his partner. Langer might have been caught off an inside edge before he was into double figures but after that matched Rampkrash's flawless drives with his own ferocious cuts. Glamorgan, who thought they might win with their spinners, badly missed the injured Waqa Younis and even before lunch were a distracted air in the field. Both batsmen might have been run out but wayward throws squandered clear chances.

So steady became the stream of boundaries - Langer hit 20 of the 265 balls he faced for four, Rampkrash 21 of his 212 - that the outcome was inevitable long before the end. Seventy-five minutes before the scheduled close, the contest came to a pathetic end when Powell, a part-time bowler, served up two long-hops for Langer to cart to the boundary.

This was an ideal preparation for Rampkrash before the first Test later this week, if not for Croft, who finished wicketless but kept Middlesex's second-wicket pair thinking until the end. Rampkrash's third hundred in four championship innings was also his first against Glamorgan and gave him a set of centuries against Middlesex's 17 county opponents.

Reassured also by his recent Test hundred in Bridgetown, Rampkrash will go to Edgbaston with confidence. Then he must face a return to Lord's, where his last three Test innings for England have produced noughts. Langer might wonder at that.

TABLE PW L DR BIPs Surrey (8) 5 3 1 18 16 83 Sussex (16) 5 2 1 2 12 19 82 Durham (17) 5 2 2 1 8 19 82 Derbyshire (16) 5 2 3 0 8 18 58 Kent (2) 5 2 1 2 4 16 57 Middlesex (4) 5 2 1 1 2 10 57 Gloucestershire (10) 4 2 0 2 8 10 56 Yorkshire (6) 4 2 2 0 7 14 53 Glamorgan (7) 4 2 2 0 5 16 23 Worcestershire (6) 4 1 0 3 11 11 47 Glamorgan (1) 4 1 1 2 8 16 46 Nottingham (13) 5 1 3 1 4 18 41 Lancashire (11) 4 1 2 1 7 14 40 Warwickshire (4) 4 1 2 1 7 14 40 Northants (15) 4 1 0 3 5 9 39 Somerset (12) 4 1 2 1 5 11 35 Essex (2) 4 1 1 2 3 11 22 Hampshire (14) 3 0 1 2 3 7 16

Mark Rampkrash, his captain and the man who stood out for Langer's invitation, who also made an unbeaten century as the two of them made light of Middlesex's stiff task of scoring 313 in the fourth innings to win.

In an unbroken four-hour stand of 276 they kept each other going with frequent cross-cultural exchanges and by vying to outscore each other. Langer, having gained an 19-run lead during an opening partnership of 38 with Kettleborough, stayed in front throughout, except for a brief period when he was in the fifties. He finished unbeaten on 153, Rampkrash on 128.

Langer, who has been out of Australia's Test side for 18 months, intends to mark his first county season in style and



Culliffe departs during the Gloucestershire collapse, leaving the bowler, Hayward, left, to lead the celebrations

South Africans romp home

By IVO TENNANT

BRISTOL (final day of four): The South Africans beat Gloucestershire by 167 runs

TO BEAT the South Africans yesterday Gloucestershire needed to make a total of 302 on a perfectly decent pitch. They did not have to contend with either Allan Donald or Shaun Pollock or, indeed, any particular restriction on their time. That the only partnership of note came from their last-wicket pair illustrated how woefully they batted down the order.

Gloucestershire were dismissed for 134 in just 32 overs, the four quickish bowlers, Hayward, Klusener, Ntini and McMillan, taking the wickets between them. The South Africans could have done with some more rigorous cricket, but they will travel to Edgbaston content in the

knowledge that they have won seven of their first eight matches, not a bad achievement for a side that was playing continuously during the winter.

This is why Donald and Pollock are being rested whenever possible. Of their attack yesterday, Ntini, who is not likely to play at in the first Test, looked, at times, pretty sharp. Klusener and McMillan, who, being the competitors they are, will both look to take part, were steady, nothing more; and Hayward was sufficiently accurate to take three wickets at little cost. That said, Gloucestershire are one of the weakest sides in the country.

The difference between this level and Test cricket was remarked upon by Rhodes,

who batted wonderfully attractively in making 123 off 101 balls, 68 of those runs having been scored the previous evening. He said he has never hit the ball more sweetly and Bob Woolmer, the South Africa coach, feels he has never batted better.

"If you go out to bat worrying about your Test place, your game will suffer," Rhodes said. He struck 19 fours and two sixes. Kirsten had made 77 when he came to the wicket and 111 when he reached three figures, which emphasises just how dominant his batting was. This was only his ninth first-class century, but then he has played in only 105 matches.

Kirsten was unbeaten with 131 when he declared ten minutes before lunch. Gloucestershire were left with a minimum of 68 overs, but that was soon a spurious statistic. Klusener took his two wickets in one over when he had Macmillan caught at long leg, pulling, and Hewson leg-before before. Wickets then fell with rapidity before the last pair, Lewis and Smith, put on 48.

Alleyne, a century-maker in the first innings, played on to Ntini. Williams could not fend off a short ball from Hayward, giving Liebenberg one of three catches he took when given the chance to keep wicket. Ball was run out attempting to beat Adams's throw from the extra-cover boundary. Windows was beaten by the ideal away swinger from Ntini and Averis was caught behind off a glove. The South Africans are expecting stiffer opposition on Thursday.

Sussex denied thrill of the chase

By RICHARD HOBSON

WORCESTER (final day of four): Worcestershire (11pts) drew with Sussex (9)

ANYTHING that happened at New Road yesterday was bound to suffer by comparison with Graeme Hick's 10th hundred on Sunday afternoon, but such an inevitability did not numb the sense of disappointment that a short, but heavy downpour should terminate an intriguing contest as it lay in the balance.

Sussex, chasing 419 to win, had moved from their overnight score of 35 without loss to 123 by lunch with the openers, Wasim Khan and Toby Peirce, still unbeaten. They required a further 296

from a minimum of 63 overs, a testing challenge, but one within the grasp of a side boasting Chris Adams and Michael Bevan at No 3 and No 4.

After 20 wickets fell on the first two days, just three more were claimed in the next four sessions. There was little pace in the pitch and Richard Illingworth conjured only minimal turn in the fourth innings. The balance might have swung towards the bowling side again, though, if Sussex had lost wickets when, as the situation demanded, they moved through the gears.

This became academic once thunderstorms broke over New Road during the lunch interval causing puddles to form on the edge of the square within minutes. Even if the umpires had declared play possible after a second inspection at 4pm, the game was no longer a contest.

Peirce and Khan were not to know this, of course, when they extended their partnership at just over two runs per over. They completed half-centuries from 149 and 160 balls respectively, their overriding approach one of watchfulness. Both, though, drove well when Worcestershire over-pitched to suggest that they have forged a useful understanding.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Gloucestershire v South Africans BRISTOL (final day of four) The South Africans beat Gloucestershire by 167 runs SOUTH AFRICANS: First Innings 419 for 8 dec: G Kirsten 126, J Klusener 123 not out, J N Rhodes 88, M W Alleyne 4 for 63

Gloucestershire: First Innings 134 for 10 dec: M J Powell 79 not out, D A Shaw 51 MIDDLESEX: First Innings 256 (D C Nash 76, S L Watkin 5 for 30) Second Innings 153

Worcestershire v Sussex WORCESTER (final day of four): Worcestershire (11pts) drew with Sussex (9) WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 350 for 8 dec: G A Hick 123

Derbyshire v Leicestershire CHESTERFIELD (final day of four): Leicestershire (21pts) beat Derbyshire (4) by 35 runs

Surrey v Kent THE OVAL (final day of four): Surrey beat Kent by an innings and 30 runs

Oxford University v Yorkshire THE PARKS (final day of three): Oxford University drew with Yorkshire

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Fulton in bullish mood for Oxford

By JOHN STERN

THE PARKS (final day of three): Oxford University drew with Yorkshire

FROM a perilous position in the morning, Oxford University came remarkably close to their first victory over Yorkshire for 49 years. After a spirited eighth-wicket stand that added 118 in 33 overs, the students had Yorkshire 37 for three and later reduced them to 173 for seven.

Oxford, though, ran out of time after Byrne and Lightfoot, the spinners, had accounted for Chapman, Vaughan and Hamilton in the space of eight overs. Vaughan, who made his second half-century of the match, and White stopped the rot either side of tea and then resistance from the injured McGrath, batting at seven, and Stemp, who hit 26, all in boundaries, ensured Yorkshire escaped with their reputation just about intact.

Fulton, the Oxford University captain, batted bullishly to make 78 - 64 more than his previous best this season - and was able to declare at lunch after he had been caught and bowled by Vaughan with Oxford's second innings total on 233 for eight.

Fulton was severe on Vaughan's off spin, hitting him for a consecutive six and four in one over. Fulton's partnership with Barnes, the wicketkeeper, who finished unbeaten on 38, was entertaining and ensured that the game would run its full course.

That seemed an unlikely scenario when Fulton was given a short ball from Hayward, giving Liebenberg one of three catches he took when given the chance to keep wicket. Ball was run out attempting to beat Adams's throw from the extra-cover boundary. Windows was beaten by the ideal away swinger from Ntini and Averis was caught behind off a glove. The South Africans are expecting stiffer opposition on Thursday.

Lara earns record fine for late show

By ALAN LEE

CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

WARWICKSHIRE acted swiftly yesterday to forestall unrest among players and supporters over the latest transgressions of Brian Lara. A three-man disciplinary panel fined Lara £2,000 for failing to arrive at Taunton in time for the Axa League game against Somerset on Sunday.

It is not a financial penalty that will hurt Lara, amounting as it does to rather less than a week's wages, but its speed and relative severity - it is a club record fine - imply that the great West Indian cannot expect the captaincy of the county to survive a repeat performance.

Lara's appointment in November polarised Warwickshire's membership and there were many who resented his elevation over the loyal and uncompromising Tim Munton. Though his batting broke records and inspired the unique haul of three trophies in 1994, Lara was not unreservedly popular. His time-keeping was sometimes as arrogant as his attitude to days in the field and some well-publicised disputes with Dermot Reeve, then the Warwickshire captain, made it richly ironic that the incident on Sunday should occur against Somerset, the club now coached by Reeve.

Lara had received permission to fly home to Trinidad last week to resolve some business affairs, but he was initially scheduled to be back in London late on Friday. A change of flight followed by a rescheduling of the match at Gatwick meant that he only arrived at Taunton 20 minutes before start of play, too late to be included in the team.

The disciplinary hearing, headed by M. J. K. Smith, the county chairman, asked Lara why he had not made contact to apprise the team of his expected arrival time. Plainly, his explanation that he had lost his mobile phone was not thought fully acceptable.

Lara's timing was clumsy. Warwickshire's season has begun to go awry, with failure to progress in the Benson and Hedges Cup followed by an unexpected championship defeat against Nottinghamshire, which provoked a lengthy team meeting. In his absence on Sunday, they were dismissed for an embarrassing 96 and defeated.

"He has apologised and assured us it won't happen again," Dennis Amis, the chief executive, said. "He will also be chatting with the players." By intriguing coincidence, his first chance to do that will come back at Taunton, before the championship game that starts tomorrow.

RACING 45

Kinane spoilt for choice in run-in to Epsom Derby



SPORT

TUESDAY JUNE 2 1998

GOLF 46

Westwood holds his nerve in push for victory



Coach lays blame for omission squarely at the feet of England midfield player

Hodde casts Gascoigne in role of a misfit

FROM OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT, IN LA MANGA

IN THE room that led out to the terrace and the sunshine, the pool tables that the players had used had been moved up against the walls and the table tennis tables had been packed away. In the bar downstairs where the squad had had one last party on Saturday night, a local band was setting up its equipment. Outside, sitting under a parasol, faced by a battery of cameras, Glenn Hoddle was saying that life had to go on.

By now, they were calling this five-star resort where the England squad has been staying this past week The Heartbreak Hotel. It seemed like the eerie hulk of a ruin, echoing with unhappy memories and the sounds of weeping and wails of despair. Most haunting, of course, were the tales of Paul Gascoigne's agony when suddenly he found himself in exile on Lonely Street.

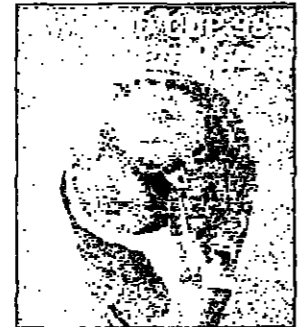
It was said by some that, in his misery, he had tried to hit out at Hoddle when the England coach told him he had omitted him from the squad for the World Cup finals. It was said that when David Seaman and Paul Ince had gone to console him in his room, they had found him crying in a corner, his vulnerability laid bare once more.

It was said, too, that the two men at the centre of one of the biggest shocks in the recent history of English football had been seen arguing in a corridor some time before their fateful meeting, that Hoddle was furious with Gascoigne because he had stopped midway through a round of golf on Saturday to drink a beer.

Hoddle dismissed all the stories one by one. But then, slowly and methodically and with the cold detachment that marked him out as a ruthless manager long before the hap-

penings on Sunday, he went on to paint a picture of a man pathetically out of touch with the discipline needed to compete in modern international football. That damned Gascoigne far more than any whispered rumour of isolated misdeeds.

When Hoddle had finished, it was even harder to dispute the wisdom of his decision than it had been the night before, when the shock was still fresh. Here was a player, he said, who had conspicuously failed to get himself fit when he had the chance, who had suffered a succession of inju-



ries as a result and who would have been a liability, a stumbling shadow of the player he once was, if he had been exposed to the high-tempo demands of the World Cup. He stopped short of identifying the irresponsibility of Gascoigne's nights out on the town in London between the end of the season and the weekend when the initial squad of 30 players convened at Bisham Abbey as the final straw, but he made it plain that the blame for Gascoigne's omission lay solely at the once quick feet of the enfant terrible himself.

"The decision I have made," Hoddle said, "was based totally on Paul's fitness levels and

the form he has been in over the last two or three months. We have run out of time in terms of getting him as fit as he should be during our World Cup campaign. I'm as disappointed as he is that he is not with us. It is a great pity for the country and the team.

"The way the game has gone, you have to be an athlete now. I watched Germany and Brazil play recently and they are athletes. I have to have players that I can play from the start and that can play 90 minutes. And unfortunately Paul did not come under that category. We have played him before when he has not been 100 per cent fit, but that was in a one-off situation. This is a bit different. This is down to the best tournament in the world and I am hoping it is going to be seven matches. From what he has shown me in the last few months, he wasn't quite ready for that.

"My job as England coach is to qualify for the World Cup and take 22 people who I feel are fit and can do the job. That was why Paul was left out. I can't afford to worry about what it will do to him mentally. Mentally, Paul has always had a few problems, yeah, so physically and mentally he has not been at his best over the recent period of time.

"In the past, I have stuck by him and I have protected him and I have helped him and done as much as I possibly can. I have gone out on a limb for him. A fit Paul Gascoigne, without any shadow of a doubt, would have been in my squad.

"There are a lot of things he could have done to get himself



Gascoigne: misery

in better shape before we met up. But he didn't. He could have helped himself a bit more, put it that way. I have done so many things to try to make him see what is needed in the modern day at his age. Now, he has just run out of time. The injuries keep coming for him and that is because, both physically and mentally, he has not been in the best of shape.

"Some of it is self-inflicted. Of course, I think that's obvious. I was hoping that in those games in Morocco, he was going to hit me in the eye and show us that he might get back to how he was four or five months ago, but it doesn't take a genius to work it out that it hasn't panned out like that."

Hoddle even said that it had been a more difficult decision to leave out Dion Dublin than it had been to omit Gascoigne. He seemed more moved by the choked reaction of Phil Neville, one of the other unlucky five, than the histrionics of his former midfield general. Asked if Gascoigne had thrown a tantrum, Hoddle said unconvincedly "not necessarily". Nor was he over-optimistic about Gascoigne's prospects of resurrecting his international career in the autumn.

In the end, it was not the rumours and the speculation that brought about the ruin of Gascoigne. It was the failure of a man who once epitomised fantasy football to come to terms with the facts of football life under Hoddle.

Man in hiding 1
Danny Baker 5
Leading article 21



Glare of publicity: Hoddle faces the press in La Manga yesterday to explain why he left Gascoigne out of his final squad of 22 for the World Cup

McManaman can pick up gauntlet

Oliver Holt looks at the contenders striving to win a berth in midfield before the squad heads for France

THERE was an edge to the England training session yesterday. Some of it, perhaps, was to do with lingering resentment amid the friends of Paul Gascoigne about the shock of his departure. Most of it seemed to centre on the fact that the squad is now on the final run-in towards the beginning of the World Cup and that there is everything to play for.

At the centre of this mood of fierce competition were a clutch of players who knew that, there and then, they were beginning the battle for the succession to Gascoigne. All the nervousness about whether or not they will be in the squad has dissipated now and thoughts are beginning to turn towards the make-up of the first XI to face Tunisia in Marseille in the opening group game for England in 13 days time.

At the centre of the speculation will be the issue of who takes hold of the creative reins now that Gascoigne has been forced to surrender them. When he was at his best, as he was in Rome when England achieved qualification for the World Cup finals last October, Gascoigne could dictate the tempo of the game and control it with accurate, short passes and sudden bursts of speed that would take him past defenders and open up space for his team-mates.

That Gascoigne, though, faded away after Rome and there is no direct replacement for him. It will not be a case of substituting like for like. There is no one, for instance, with his experience and the contenders who are lining up for the critical third central midfield position alongside Paul Ince

and David Batty have only just more caps between them than Gascoigne had by himself.

The favourite for elevation is Paul Scholes, of Manchester United. Of all the options available, he is the one who most resembles Gascoigne in style of play. He does not have the ability to dribble his way past players in the way Gascoigne did, but he has a far better chance of creating danger in the box with his surging runs, quick feet and finisher's instincts.

Then there is David Beckham, another United man. Playing him in central midfield has been a cause celebre since it became obvious that Gascoigne's light was dying and Hoddle spoke yesterday of the superior ability that he has to hit long through-balls scything through an opposition defence.

But Beckham, like an American football quarterback who cannot scramble, tends to be too static in the centre of midfield when England are in possession. He lacks the pace to open play up with a run or a jink past a defender and many feel that his crossing ability would be sorely missed if he was pushed in from the right.

There is a lesser case for Darren Anderton, of Tottenham Hotspur, but the most intriguing option would be the inclusion of Steve McManaman, the Liverpool midfield player, who seems to have spent so long on the fringes of Hoddle's plans but may now

be given the chance to come in from the cold. Protected by Ince and Batty, he would at last have the attacking freedom that he is given willingly at Liverpool but that has hitherto been denied him in the England team.

That would be the most adventurous way to go, the option that could unlock the best defences in the world, if it came off. It would be a high-risk strategy, but Hoddle has proved already, with the omission of Gascoigne, that he is not afraid of taking those. If McManaman gets the nod, an England team that seems to have been in almost intangible decline since that night in Rome could be suddenly revitalised.

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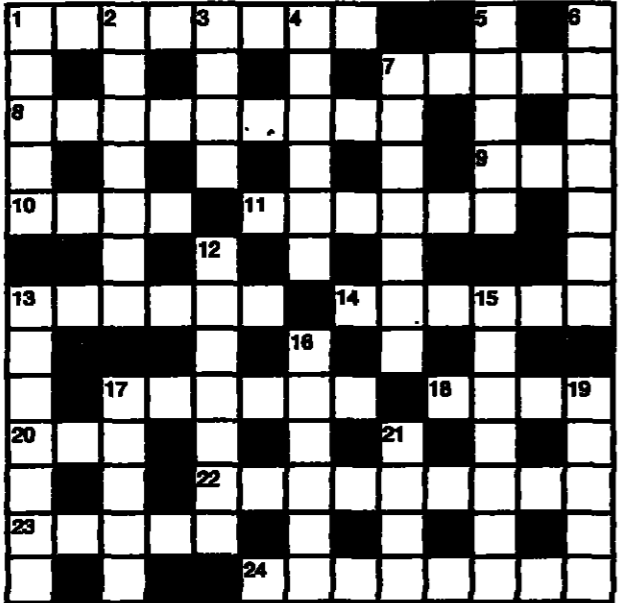
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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1421

- ACROSS: 1 Mouth cosmetic (8) 7 Previous; a religious (5) 8 A butterfly; sulphur (toned) (9) 9 Meadow (3) 10 Went; socialist (4) 11 Boy's name; was wicked (reversed) (6) 13 SI temperature unit (6) 14 Renter of property (6) 17 Ceramic worker; vaguely fill time (6) 18 Comfilly ensconced (4) 20 Haichet (5) 22 Investigator (9) 23 Varlet; jack (5) 24 (Girl) receiving patronage (8)
- DOWN: 1 Defamatory publication (5) 2 Agonising (7) 3 Assigned job (4) 4 Anger; sounds like part of jacket (6) 5 Housman's were blue-remembered (5) 6 Syrup; cloying flattery (7) 7 Small coins (7) 12 Turbulent current (7) 13 In pub, 15 to tape (7) 15 Art of the voice (7) 16 Trusted (older) adviser (6) 17 Part of flower; "now sleeps the crimson" (Teanyson) (5) 19 Incumbent's plot of land (5) 21 North Briton (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1420
ACROSS: 1 Jodhpurs 5 Icon 8 Limbo 9 Mithras
11 Ivy 12 Airy-fairy 13 Yellow 15 Jet-lag 18 Rendition
19 Hal 20 Starde 21 Swiss 22 Seck 23 Mandated
DOWN: 1 Jollity 2 Dumpty 3 Protagonist 4 Remark
6 Cordial 7 Nasby 10 Toffee-nosed 14 Lineage
16 Galahad 17 Cinema 18 Roses 19 Hoist

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Nation stunned by demise of England's talisman

By KEVIN EASON

THE sacking of Paul Gascoigne stirred the sort of national grief and turmoil yesterday usually reserved for the great occasions of state. But then, the loss of England's most charismatic footballer from the World Cup probably was one of those occasions.

The reaction to Glenn Hoddle's decision to send Gascoigne home split the football community and filled pubs, clubs and homes. Yet, all along, was the feeling that this was not a discussion of the merits of Paul Gascoigne, footballer, but Paul Gascoigne, England's lucky talisman. Could England win without the footballer, fit or not, who had inspired its finest hours?

Chris Waddle, fellow Georgie and former Newcastle and England team-mate, said: "It is a brave decision. I watched Gazza against Belgium and Morocco and he is clearly still looking for match fitness, but his presence in the squad could have been vital."

Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager who paid £3.45 million for Gascoigne, said: "Gazza is a top-quality player who can win

you a game out of nothing, especially at the highest level."

Simon Bolton, Middlesbrough's secretary, said: "Teams due to play England will be happy because everyone knows Gazza is capable of destroying teams with a moment of brilliance. I think everyone in the country would say Gascoigne should be in the squad if he is fit."

The rest of England was not so sure. Newspaper, radio station and television polls yesterday all gave their back-

ing to Hoddle's decision to eliminate the maverick Georgie from his squad. For it seems that the well of goodwill that Gascoigne has drawn on through the highs of Italia 90 and Euro 96, and the kebab and lager lows of his fractured domestic life, has finally run dry.

Gordon Banks, England's 1966 World Cup-winning goalkeeper, said: "He has been an excellent player but he let himself go."

The question worrying fellow professionals last night was whether this would be a disappointment too far for a footballer whose character so often fails to stand the test of rejection. Gary Mabbutt, his team-mate for four years at Tottenham Hotspur, said: "He will be devastated. There is a possibility he will react in a negative way."

Jimmy Greaves, who lost his England place on the eve of the World Cup Final in 1966, said Gascoigne must not allow Hoddle's decision to overwhelm him. "I think he's going to need a lot of friends in the next few weeks because his career is not finished," Greaves said. "He has four or five more years in top class professional football."



The Great Debate: the arguments for and against Gazza. Page 48